

The Correspondence of Sir Ernest Satow while
he was British Minister in Japan (1895-1900)
from the Satow Papers held at The National
Archives, Kew, London Volume Three

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Published in Full for Researchers with Notes
by Ian Ruxton, Kyushu Institute of Technology

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Preface

The following represents as closely as possible what a researcher would see in the mostly handwritten files of the Satow Papers on a visit to the National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office) in Kew, West London. The Satow Papers were left to the nation in the last will and testament of Sir Ernest Satow (1843-1929). This substantial book is just a small part of the available papers, and contains a great deal of minutiae which may be of limited interest to those without a specific and related research topic in mind. Nevertheless, an accurate impression of the preoccupations and language of Victorian diplomacy and consular work in late 19th century Japan may be gained by all readers. Annotations have been added to assist the reader's comprehension.

Volume One comprises chiefly official letters addressed and sent to Satow from the Foreign Office in far-off London, the Tokyo legation and consular staff at Kobe, Nagasaki and Hakodate. Satow Papers reference PRO 30/33 5/1 through 5/10.

The letters in Volume Two are from the Yokohama consulate, the Court for Japan and the Chamber of Commerce based in Yokohama. They are almost all addressed to Satow, though Gerard Augustus Lowther was Legation Secretary and acting Minister (Chargé d'affaires) in 1897 when Satow went home on leave. They are mainly from the Consul or Acting Consul but also some are from consular officials. These included – in order of appearance in this volume – John C. Hall, Raymond de B.M. Layard, Arthur Hyde Lay, James Troup, Ralph G. E. Forster, Henry A.C. Bonar and Ernest M. Hobart-Hampden. The Judges were R.A. Mowat and H.S. Wilkinson. Satow Papers reference PRO 30/33 6/1 through 6/7, 6/13, 6/16 and 6/17.

Volume Three contains letters from diplomatic representatives elsewhere (6/8), colonial and India authorities (6/9), naval authorities (6/10), Japanese authorities (6/11), Foreign representatives in Tokyo (6/12), and miscellaneous correspondence (6/14, 6/15).

All and any errors in transcription are apologised for in advance. Illegible or uncertain parts are marked [?]. Paragraphing may differ from the original letters to some degree for readability, and images of original documents have been included where deemed appropriate.

Ian Ruxton
September 2014

Relevant Books by the Same Author

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *The Diaries and Letters of Sir Ernest Mason Satow (1843-1929): A Scholar-Diplomat in East Asia*, Edwin Mellen Press, 1998 (A general introduction to Satow's life and letters.)

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *The Diaries of Sir Ernest Satow, British Minister in Tokyo (1895-1900): A Diplomat Returns to Japan*, Tokyo: Edition Synapse, 2003, with an introduction by Dr. Nigel J. Brailey (republished as a paperback in 2010 through Lulu Press)

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *The Correspondence of Sir Ernest Satow, British Minister in Japan, 1895-1900, Volume One*, Lulu Press Inc., 2005

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *The Diaries of Sir Ernest Satow, British Envoy in Peking (1900-06)*, Lulu Press Inc., 2006 (Two volumes. Volume 1 – 1900-03; Volume 2 – 1904-06) with an introduction by Dr. James E. Hoare

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *The Semi-Official Letters of British Envoy Sir Ernest Satow from Japan and China (1895-1906)*, Lulu Press Inc. 2007, with an introduction by Dr. James E. Hoare

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *Sir Ernest Satow's Private Letters to W. G. Aston and F. V. Dickins: The Correspondence of a Pioneer Japanologist from 1870 to 1918*, Lulu Press Inc. 2008, with an introduction by Professor Peter F. Kornicki

Ian Ruxton (ed.), *The Correspondence of Sir Ernest Satow, British Minister in Japan, 1895-1900, Volume Two*, Lulu Press, Inc., 2011

For these and other books, including translations from Japanese to English, see <http://www.lulu.com/ianruxton> and the amazon websites.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Aug 1895-June 1900)

1. British Minister in Peking Sir Nicholas O'Connor¹ to Satow²

Peking

Aug. 28/95

Private

Dear Satow,

I asked you today by tel[egram] if you knew whether the Jap[ane]se. were preparing a demand for the opening of the West River. Hayashi³ had just been here & told me that the D[ra]ft (civil Treaty) had left Tokio & that as it comprised several new points the West River might be one of them but that he did not know.

I think the Japanese owe us this good turn all the more that they advised us originally that it was one of their demands. They put it down and told us so with a view & it is not too much to press that they sh[ou]ld. again prefer the demand & make it a part of the settlement. It ought of course to comprise the whole of the West River so as to let our goods run to the S[outh]. of Yunnan & compete ag[ain]st. the French entering via Tongking. Probably the Ports will increase the Customs Revenue by a couple of Million Dollars a year & this is an important matter for the security of the indemnity. The Germans will join us in backing up the demand. Schenck⁴ rather wants me to broach the question but with the angry discussions following the French Tonkin[?] Convention⁵ & the Missionary outrages I do

¹ Sir Nicholas Roderick O'Connor (1843-1908, knighted 1895). He joined the Diplomatic Service in 1866. He had a variety of postings, including Secretary of Legation at Peking (1883-6), acting as Chargé d'affaires at the Legation, (1885-6); Secretary of Legation, Washington (1886); Consul General, Bulgaria (1887-92); envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Emperor of China and King of Korea, Peking (1892-5); envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the emperor of Russia (1895-8); and Ambassador to Turkey (1898-1908). His papers are at the Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge, UK.

² Satow's reply dated 15 September 1895 to this letter is in PRO 30/33 14/8. See Ruxton (ed.), *The Private Letters of British Envoy Sir Ernest Satow on Official Business from Japan and China (1895-1906)*, Lulu Press, 2007.

³ Hayashi Tadasu (1850-1913) was at this time Japanese minister in Peking. He later signed the Anglo-Japanese Alliance in London in 1902.

⁴ Probably Baron Schenk zu Schweinberg, German Minister in Beijing from March 1893 to June 1896. (With thanks to Jim Hoare)

⁵ Probably the Complimentary Convention to the Convention relating to the Delimitation of the Border between China and Tonkin of 28 June 1887, which was signed in Beijing on 20 June 1895.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

not see my way to doing so,

Yrs very Truly, N.R. O'Connor

2. O'Connor to Satow (p. 4 in file)

[Recd. Oct. 4]

Peking

Sept 22/95

Dear Satow,

Thank you for yours of the 3rd.

I have written to H.M.'s Consuls in Formosa in sense desired & will remind [Walter] Hillier⁶ in due course. The former will of course be handed over to you in future[?] – in reality I consider them already under you. I have not sounded them as to their personal wishes but if they wish to join the Jap[ane]se. Consular service I think they have a fair claim to do so.⁷

The Treasury have already agreed to approp. [appropriate?] men for the New Ports [to be opened in China as a result of the Shimonoseki Treaty] & in Nov[ember]. there will be 10 [language] students here.

I hope Wuchan Yu will be opened. Indeed I take a sanguine view of the chances.

I am sorry our relations should be drawing to a close as they have well begun & though of course I am pleased to get back to civilization I do not leave the helm here without many regrets. The next few years will be deeply interesting and the results felt long afterwards.

Yours very truly

N.R. O'Connor

3 O'Connor to Satow

[Recd. Oct. 7]

Ans. Oct. 9] ⁸

Peking

Sept 24. 1895

⁶ Sir Walter Caine Hillier (1849-1927) was a British diplomat, academic, author, Sinologist and Professor of Chinese at Kings College, London. From 1889 to 1896 he was Consul-General in Seoul.

⁷ Following the Treaty of Shimonoseki (17 April 1895) under which the Japanese took Taiwan (Formosa), the British consular posts were to be transferred from the China Consular Service to the Japan Consular Service.

⁸ See PRO 30/33 14/8, No. 8 for Satow's reply.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Private

My dear Satow,

As far as I can gather the Chinese Gov[ernmen]t. are seriously contemplating the opening of New Ports being convinced it is one of the more necessary and effectual ways of increasing the Imperial Revenue so as to provide for the huge [Sino-Japanese War] indemnity & other inevitable expenses. At all events Li Hung Chang, the Chief Chinese negotiator for the new Civil Treaty, accepted the idea very favourably & it seems to me that it now depends in great measure upon Japan preparing an earnest request in the matter. So far they never seriously urged the opening of the West River & I feel sure that if they had pressed it at Shimonoseki China would have given way not only about Wuchan Yu but also about Peking.

If the negotiations open without Hayashi having instructions to prefer the demand it will be much more difficult to get it through; & besides I do not think China will want any considerable reduction in other directions in return for compliance with a demand which she is half convinced already is in her own interests. It is all important however that Hayashi should have instructions before the negotiations begin & I hope you will not think me a bore or imagine that I am trying to put on your shoulders work which I ought to do myself as more directly concerning Brit[ish]. Trade in China if I ask you to do all you can to induce Marquis Ito to attend to this matter. It is in the interest of Japan as well as of those who are desirous to keep China on her feet that she should comply with a request which will add so considerably to her revenue & the prosperity of her S. Western Provinces. As time is of importance I am telegraphing to you again & hope you will give a favourable interpretation to my action.

Believe me

Yours very truly

N.R. O'Connor

P.S. Hayashi thinks that his Gov[ernmen]t. will prefer to get 30 million Taels thro' the intervention of the Three Powers than 15 million by treaty directly with China. In my opinion the political advantages of the latter course are so evident that I shd. have thought Marquis Ito would prefer it. I have mentioned subject in my Me[morandum]. of this morning. Yrs Truly

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

4. Walter Hillier to Satow

[Recd. 23

Ansd. 25]

Private

Seoul. October 13th /95

Dear Sir Ernest,

You will naturally be expecting some information from me about the serious episode that occurred here on 5th inst. I have been struggling to get copies of my reports on the matter prepared for you as there is more than grave suspicion that the Japanese Legation authorities are seriously involved in the plot, but I am terribly handicapped by the fact that my only assistant is on leave, and under the present system I have not only to report to Peking, but in serious matters of this sort to send copies of my reports direct to the Foreign Office. This task, hindered as I am by constant interruption and a good deal of going about, is already almost beyond my powers, and I am further weighted[?] by indifferent eyesight. Under these circumstances I am obliged to ask your indulgence and to beg you to accept the accompanying somewhat meagre précis in lieu of the full reports which I should like to send you. The outlook is far from satisfactory at the present moment & the King, Tai Won Kun [regent] and the existing ministers are in the power of a junta of five or six men with a force of some 1200 Japanese drilled troops at their back, supported it is universally believed, by the Japanese Legation. The popular indignation is intense, and if this force of 1200 men can be disarmed or won over there will be a pretty lively time, and Japanese military intervention will probably have again to be brought into play. Waeber the Russian Representative is extremely indignant, and if he gets any encouragement from his government I anticipate that he will be inclined to demand the disbandment of this guard, which the King is most anxious to be relieved of. Viscount Miura denies that the Japanese troops had any hand in the plot, or that Japanese were concerned in the murder of women and others – amongst them, I firmly believe, the Queen, but the proofs are too strong, and in the face of them I do not see how he can continue to maintain his role of ignorance and innocence. I must now leave my précis to speak for itself, once more expressing my regret that I cannot for the moment supply you with the full text of my reports.

Yours very truly,

Walter C. Hillier

P.S. My précis includes all that I have written so far. I propose to continue to send you

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

instalments of summaries of any despp. that may interest you until I can obtain some clerical assistance.

5. Hillier to Satow

[Recd. 25

Ansd. 25]

Seoul. Oct. 16th 1895.

Dear Sir Ernest,

Herewith a further instalment of the précis of my despatches relating to current events. I hardly like to expand the subject of No. 95 in case this coup should miscarry.

Yours very truly

Walter C. Hillier

6. Hillier to Satow (p. 15 in original file)

Seoul. October 28th 1895.

Dear Sir Ernest,

I send you herewith a précis of my despatches to Peking, up to date, with reference to recent affairs in Corea. This précis has been prepared by my assistant, who has just returned, & I have not had time to read it, but I hope it is fairly full.

I received today instructions to supply you with copies of my despp. on Corean affairs, and I will do my best to send you these as soon as possible after date in future, but I have only one Assistant & he is fairly hard worked. If you want to see the full text of any of my despp. [despatches] referred to in the précis will you kindly let me know, and copies shall be sent to you?

Yours very truly

Walter C. Hillier

7. O'Connor to Satow

Private

Peking

Oct. 30/95

My dear Satow,

Very many thanks for your congratulations on my appt. to Petersburg though I fear it is

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

much like going from the firepan [? frying pan] into the fire.

The West River question looks more hopeful than it has done for a long time & I trust this trade artery will be opened ere long.

We expect to get away on the 2nd prox. & there is the usual rush at the end – I hope we may meet again in Europe & believe me

Yours very tr'y

N.R. O'Connor

8. O'Connor to Satow (p. 18 in file)

Private

Shanghai

Nov. 11/95

My dear Satow,

A few days before leaving Peking I had a long talk with Hayashi in the course of which I gave him my opinion of the late attitude of Japan towards us much as follows. We had abstained from joining the Three Powers in demanding the retrocession of the Liaotung [peninsula] – it did not matter for what reasons but the fact remained. I naturally thought that his Gov[ernmen]t. wd. recognize our friendly attitude & I had not the least doubt that when you urged them to assist us in a question such as the opening of the West River – a question of a purely commercial character beneficial to Japan as well as to us & also to China – that they w[ou]ld. be glad to show their good will in this simple & easy way. I was not therefore a little surprised when I heard Ito alleging some flimsy excuse about a French Sec[retar]y. having unofficially signified at the Jap[anese]. F.O. that his Gov[ernmen]t. did not desire the opening of the River as a reason for not complying with our demand. In other ways I had been able to show M. Hayashi some friendliness in his relations with the Yamen [Chinese F.O.] & so on. This implied however a return & so far I saw no inclination to give any. Our common interests were close but there must be a quid pro quo.

Hayashi said he entirely shared my view: that he had confidentially advised his Gov[ernmen]t. in the same sense & that he fully appreciated the value of our assistance.

I mention this before leaving as it may not be without interest to you.

We got here this morning & I have not had a moment to myself to write these few lines for tomorrow's post. The gong [has] sounded for dinner so please forgive haste & again goodbye & much luck to you.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Yrs very tr'y
N.R. O'Connor

9. Hillier to Satow

Private

Seoul. Dec 9th, 1895

My dear Sir Ernest

Your letter of November 15th only reached me yesterday. I am much obliged for it, as it throws light on what has been somewhat of a puzzle to me. I could not understand why Count Inouye and Mr. Komura should have been apparently so strongly in favour of putting a guard into the palace and then suddenly turned round. It seems evident now that they were not, as I supposed, aware of the policy which their Government intended to pursue, and that their opinions were overruled at Tokyo. I still think it is a pity that they were overruled, as a temporary occupation of the palace would have been an effectual bar to the ill-advised and abortive movement of the 28th ult[im]o. which has done incalculable harm and reduced the condition of affairs here to a hopeless mess. So far I have been unable to get at the bottom of the plot, but it seems as if some of the members of the Cabinet were themselves concerned in it, the two people against whom it was aimed being the Prime Minister and Yu Kil ch'un [?]. One of the refugees in the Russian Legation is said to have been implicated, but this movement was precipitated before it was ripe for execution by one or two men who wanted to get the credit of it for themselves, and hence its failure. I am told positively that neither Underwood nor any American missionary were implicated, but their presence in the palace on that night, and the manner in which they forced themselves into the King's presence with revolvers in their hands have given the local Japanese papers a peg on which to hang all sorts of insinuations, while the continued presence [of] the so-called "refugees" in the U.S. & Russian Legations gives the enemy further opportunity to "blaspheme". I do not for a moment believe that either Waeber or Sill were cognisant of the plot, but I think the retention of the refugees is a mistake, and I feel sure there will be no permanent quiet as long as they remain where they are. The present situation, as far as I understand it, is depressing. The Cabinet is divided, and each one suspects the other. The King is absolutely powerless, and as he is suspected (with good reason I believe) to have been a party to the recent plot, the members of the Cabinet against whom it was directed will take care to keep him a close prisoner than ever, and he will be forced to issue any

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

decrees that the Cabinet wish. As the Cabinet is divided, there is bound to be a disagreement before long, and as neither party will be disposed to yield, for once out of office no minister is safe from attack, we have every prospect of a succession of plots and counter-plots, and constant disquiet for some time to come. In my humble opinion Korea must be taken in hand by one Power or a combination of Powers. Until she is there can be no peace and quiet here. An annoying feature of the situation is the mendacity of newspaper correspondents – not only Japanese but Foreign as well. The statements about Count Inouye published in the North China Herald are scandalous, and an outrage upon decency. I have always found Count Inouye and Mr. Komura most pleasant and courteous men to deal with, and I have never had reason to doubt the accuracy of their statements or the sincerity of their motives. When an English paper calling itself a “high class journal” publishes such libellous statements about Japanese high officials it is hardly to be wondered at that Japanese Editors retaliate? I am sending you copies of my Nos. 94 & 95 as requested. Press copies of all my despatches to Peking up to date have been sent to you. The last number is No. 134.

Yours very truly
Walter C. Hillier

10. Hillier to Satow

Private

Seoul. Dec 16th, 1895

My dear Sir Ernest

The accompanying copy of a letter I have written to Mr. Beauclerk may interest you. It speaks for itself, I think, sufficiently to require no amplification, but perhaps I might say that it only gives my impressions, and I beg you to accept them for what they are worth. They may, however, help you to discount what will probably be broadly hinted at in the Japanese newspapers. Waeber is a personal friend of mine, and a most courteous and pleasant colleague whose departure I shall regret, but he is very reticent, and one cannot draw much information from him.

Yours very truly
Walter C. Hillier

Enclosed letter (p. 29 in file):

Confidential

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Copy

Seoul. Decr. 14th 1895

Dear Mr. Beauclerk,

We live in such an atmosphere of suspicion, falsehood and rumour in this city that it is difficult to arrive at any conclusion as to the truth or otherwise of the many stories that are in circulation, and I hesitate to report to you officially anything for the truth of which I am unable to vouch. You may, however, be interested to hear the gist of some of these rumours, so I communicate them to you privately. It is freely stated by the Japanese and others that certain American missionaries, notably a Dr. Underwood, were implicated in the recent plot, that Dr. Allen the Secretary of the U.S. Legation was privy to it, and that Mr. Waeber [of the Russian legation] also knew something about it. They all deny the charge, and it would be difficult to prove anything against anyone of them. I have made it an invariable rule to speak to no Corean officials except the Foreign Minister on political matters, for not a single one of them is to be trusted, and would not hesitate to quote or misquote as it pleased them any remarks that might be made. I am therefore not behind the scenes at all, but this rule has not been observed by my Russian and American colleagues, who not only listen to all that their refugees have to tell them, but see various other officials in and out of office and, I believe, discuss the situation with them. This has given colour to various stories that are current to the effect that certain Foreign Representatives were concerned in the recent plot. My own opinion is, though I offer it with all reserve, that both the Russian and American Ministers were aware that a plot to rescue the King was in process of incubation, that they gave it their tacit approval, and that they suspected their refugees were in it, though they were ignorant of the detail, and did not anticipate it was coming off so soon. There appears to be little doubt that the originator of the plot was one Yi Pon-chin, ex-Minister of the Household, who is hiding at the Russian Legation. Letters from him to the Colonel of the Palace-Guard were shown by the latter to some of the Cabinet Ministers, and he laid a trap for Yi Pom-chin by taking all his letters as soon as they arrived to the Prime Minister. The plot was precipitated by certain outsiders, who wanted to get the credit of it with the King, and it was against the advice of Yi Pom-chin that it was put into execution so soon. The person to whom its premature birth was due is the official called Yün, mentioned in my accompanying despatch. I also believe that the King himself was a party to the plot, which was engaged in with his approval, and as I have recently been positively informed that Dr. Underwood was carrying letters surreptitiously to the King,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

and that he used constantly to go and see the refugees in the Russian and U.S. Legations, I suspect that he knew more about what was going on than he cares to say. I do not believe that he expected the affair to come off when it did, but he and two other missionaries were in the palace on the night it did come off and forced their way past the sentries into the King's room at H.M.'s request when the alarm was given. Two other persons who are under suspicion are General [William] Dye and a soi-disant Colonel called Rienstead[?], both American who were in charge of the guard on the night in question, but I cannot say how far the suspicion is justified. Both of them will, I suspect, be dismissed before long. It is also stated that some of the Cabinet Ministers and other Government officials were in the plot, and that no resistance was anticipated is proved by the fact that most of the so-called revolutionists were unarmed, that the soldiers inside the palace did not fire upon them, and that the few revolutionists who carried swords intended to use them only upon the Cabinet Ministers whose assassination had been arranged for with, I firmly believe, the approval of the King. Great capital is of course being made by the Japanese out of the whole affair, and their newspapers are doing all they dare to bring discredit upon the Americans & the Russian legation. As the natives do not discriminate between one foreigner and another, they regard the plot as a foreign plot, and all foreigners as equally implicated.

It never entered into the heads of the American missionaries, I suppose, that assassination was to form part of the programme, and as they have all freely asserted their opinion to Koreans with whom they are intimate that an attempt to rescue the King from his state of durance [confinement] would be a praiseworthy act, this much of a handle has been given to their detractors.

As I have said before nothing could have been more ill advised than the whole affair, and it has thrown matters back most lamentably. For myself I see no end to it all. The present Cabinet has no cohesion but none of the members dare resign for fear they should be "gone for" directly they are out of office. They are in fact holding on to the tiger's tail, knowing, if they let go he will turn and rend[?] them, and we may have another cataclysm before long.

S[igne]d. W.C. Hillier

11. British consul in Amoy Christopher Thomas Gardner to Satow (p. 35 in file)

[ans. Jan 12. 96]

Amoy 30th Decr. 1895.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Private

Dear Sir Ernest,

In the first place allow me to congratulate you on your return to Japan in the high post you at present occupy, and I feel still more disposed to congratulate the British community in the East that at the present moment at the most critical point of the Far East they have on the spot one so able to protect their interests and to safeguard the honour of our country. I have followed your career with pleasure. It has been most gratifying to me to perceive that step by step you have done good service and that like the man in the parable you have been rewarded, for the hard work you have done in exercising your talents, by being given still harder work to do.

I have sent on your despatch to Frank Cass of Lapraik Cass & Co. From the beginning of the affair Cass has been most unwilling to claim money compensation for the Thales Incident. He is most grateful to you for the very satisfactory termination of the affair. What he personally would like is that any compensation given by the Japanese Gov[ernmen]t. should be returned to them, for distribution among Japanese charities but before officially replying to you he wishes to consult his partner who resides at Hongkong.

I daresay you will have heard before this reaches you of my bereavement. My wife died on the 15th Decr. I loved her when I was a boy and she a girl. I have spent with her 25 years of such happiness as few, I know none, men have enjoyed. Our only child has been married nearly two years to Laird, just appointed 1st Lieut. of the “Daphne” on this station. The marriage has been a most happy one in every respect.

And now for myself the happiest thing would be to die & join my wife, but it is strange how the ideas instilled in our mind by Christianity outlive dogmatic theology – and I feel it my duty to stick to my post until fate releases me – and meanwhile to endeavour to dull the sense of pain and loneliness in work.

Yours truly

Chris Gardner

12. Hillier to Satow

[Recd. Jan. 20

Ansd. Jan. 30]

Söul. Jany 9th 1896

Dear Sir Ernest,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

I am much obliged to you for your letter of Dec. 19th which was delivered to me by Mr. De Speyer yesterday, as also for the enclosure which I duly decyphered.

I answered your letter of November 15th, which was nearly a month in reaching me by the way, the day after its receipt, if I remember rightly, and since then I have written you another letter enclosing copy of a letter I wrote to Beauclerk dated Decr. 14th. [See letter no. 10 above.] This I hope has not gone astray.

You may have heard that Waeber remains on here for the present, in what capacity he does not say, but he gives out that he is ordered to remain until matters are less chaotic than they are at present. The Cabinet are considerably perturbed by this arrangement, which they fear forbodes some energetic action on the part of Russia before long. It is rumoured, and I think that the rumour may be true, that he has been requested by the King to stay on for a time. Another theory that is propounded is that he will shortly take Mr. Hitrovo's place, as the latter is going home on leave in the spring, at least so Krien says.

Things seem to be settling down somewhat here, but how long the Cabinet will pull together it is impossible to say. If they can keep the King in order and go slow they will, I hope, get along somehow, but many more startling "reforms" like the hair-cutting move will, I fancy, cause a row. The soldiers and the police have to be kept in a good temper above all things, and as they begin to realise their power they are extremely likely to become domineering.

I hear that one Kuan, ex-police superintendent, is going to Japan to negotiate another loan.

Yours sincerely

Walter C. Hillier

P.S. The last despatch to Peking of wh: I sent you a copy was No. 140 of Dec. 31st.

W.C.H.

13. Gardner to Satow (p. 42 of original file)

[Recd. 27th Feb.] ⁹

Private

Amoy 20th February 1896

Dear Sir Ernest,

⁹ See Satow's diary for 27 February 1896. Satow asked Hara Kei to "hurry up Formosan Authorities" about the arrest of the compradore. On the next day he sent J.H. Gubbins to the Japanese F.O. with a note verbale.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Referring to my telegram to you of 18th and your reply of 19th. I am well aware that Formosa is not in my beat. But Amoy and Formosa are so mixed up that everything that happens in Formosa affects Amoy. All the British firms in Formosa are branches of firms in Amoy. Cass asked me to send you the telegram of the 18th and paid for it. Official telegrams are sent quicker than merchants. Yesterday he wanted me to wire you again, but I advised him to wire you himself. Cass thinks the arrest of his compradore is a bit of spite, a sort of tit for tat for his informing me of the Thales affair. Personally I am inclined to guess that some scoundrelly Chinaman in Japanese employ had a grudge against the compradore and has trumped up some secret denunciation.

Under the circumstances it is inevitable that all the respectable Chinese of Amoy hold aloof from the Japanese and the only ones who go to Formosa to give them information and make money out of them are the outcasts & Parwals[?].

One of these outcasts – now said to have the ear of the Japanese – I know something about. He has been accused of many frauds and before I came here had been imprisoned at the instance of Forest my predecessor. I should not be surprised if this man should turn out to be the accuser of Casses comprador.

Mr. Gowland, of Casses firm, is starting this afternoon by a special steamer to Tamsui to endeavor to effect the Compradores release, and to discover what the charge against him is. As yet no charge has been formulated & he is being treated as a criminal without trial.

In China, the Chinese authorities when the servant of a British subject is accused of a crime always write to the Consul and the arrest is effected by the Consul, who hands the accused over.

Casses Compradore is a man of wealth – he is not at all the sort of man to engage in plots. He is well known here and has many friends among both Chinese & Foreigners. Hitherto the Japanese have respected our servants to a certain extent. But the arrest of the Compradore of the largest firm will terrorize all the Chinese here and they will not dare go over to prepare the teas. Before the War several thousand people used to be taken over by Cass to prepare & fire his teas for him every year.

Yrs Truly

Chris Gardner

14. Satow replies to Gardner

Copy

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

28.2.96

My dear Gardner,

Yours of the 20th reached me yesterday. I do not think anyone c[ou]ld. object to your writing to me ab[ou]t. Lapraik Cass & Co's interests at Tamsui or telegraphing either. I rec[eive]d. a teleg[ram] ab[ou]t. the arrest of the compradore fr[om]. Ayrton, and later on one fr[om]. the Chairman of the Amoy Genl. Chamber of Commerce. Ayrton is the most careless[?] & indolent consular officer I have ever had to do with. He ought to have reported by desp. but hitherto has not done so. I telegd. to him that I cld. not act unless he reported, & the same words were repeated in my teleg. to you. But betw. you and myself, I afterw[ar]ds wrote a Note to the Min[ister]. for F.A. asking for information as to the grounds of the arrest & whether the compradore was likely to be soon released, & I spoke ab[ou]t. the matter again yesterday to the V-M. Until I know the facts in detail I cannot address a remonstrance to the Jap. Gov[ernmen]t.

I was told by my Germ[an]. Coll[eague]. that Ayrton as far back as Dec[ember] last protested ag[ain]st the orders of the Govr Genl of Formosa ab[ou]t. the non-admission of Chinese, & obtained a copy fr[om]. him of the document. But tho' I telegd. on the 2nd Jan[uar]y. I have had nothing fr[om]. Ayrton.

I do not think this sort of thing is likely to do him any good with the F.O.

You may assure Mr. Cass that I will do all I can to help his man.

y.v.t.

15. Hillier to Satow (p. 46 of original file)

[Ans. 22. 7. 96]

Private

Chemulpo July 1st 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

I am much obliged to you for your letter of June 23rd and your kind invitation to visit you at Chiuzenji.

I was going to Unzen [Nagasaki prefecture] for the summer, and nothing would have given me greater pleasure, had circumstances permitted, than to pay you a visit, but unfortunately all my plans have been altered owing to a breakdown in my eyesight. I have been suffering for several years from chronic glaucoma which is now on the verge of becoming acute, and my London doctor, as well as our local one, tells me that unless I stop

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

work at once, and for good, I shall probably lose my sight. I have therefore applied for permission to retire, and am now waiting for the answer which I expect to receive in September. Meanwhile I have come down here to get away from work, and Wilkinson, the Vice-Consul, is writing all the despatches for me that are not dictated by myself. It is a great disappointment to me in many ways to have to give up my career, but the case, I am afraid, is a hopeless one, & it is no use fighting against the inevitable. With very great care I may retain my sight, but I shall never be able to do any work, and at present I am afraid to read or write for more than a few minutes a day, so you must please excuse a short letter. I have not given out that I have sent in my resignation, but have told my colleagues that as I may have to go home for an operation on my eyes I have decided to abandon my trip to Japan.

Yours sincerely

Walter C. Hillier

16. O'Connor to Satow (p.49 of original file)

Private

St. Petersburg

Sep 10/96

My dear Satow,

I have little to say except to thank you for your Note conveying Yamagata's thanks. Pray tell the warrior it was too kind of him to have taken the trouble.

My idea is that we must play with Japan for the present & whatever be our inward or real feelings dangle before them a possible "entente." There is no other policy till things are cleared up & it w[ou]ld be folly to throw away this good card for tho' it may not seem a great value to us I am sure the Russians are afraid of it.

It seems to me your road is pretty clear & that you are the man to hold it for us.

With much greet'g to Lowther & Ralph Paget.

Yrs very truly

N.R. O'Connor

17. Gardner to Satow (p. 51)

HBM Consulate

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Amoy 11th Oct 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

I just drop you a line to tell you that the seal of your letter posted to me at Tokyo on the 24th September had been tampered with – the letter had evidently been opened and resealed.

In your cover were two private letters – one to Longford & one to Layard – both these letters had been tampered with.

Yrs Truly

Chris Gardner

18. British Consul in Canton Byron Brenan to Satow (p. 53 of original file)

Yokohama 24 Nov. 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

In no port of China may a Chinaman sell (賣) land to a foreigner. If by an oversight this word is used, the District Magistrate returns the deed for correction when the Consul sends it in for registration. The transaction is in the form of (永租) perpetual lease, which comes to much the same thing. The foreigner is perpetual lessee. I expect that this is what the Tainan magistrate meant. At the ports where we have “concessions” such as Tientsin, Canton &c. the British Gov[ernment] has a perpetual lease of the ground, and releases it in small lots to foreigners for 99 years. At the ports where there are settlements such as Shanghai, each foreigner bought direct from the Chinese proprietor – I mean leased, not bought. But at all the ports, whether with concessions or settlements, foreigners may lease land outside the limits. At Amoy for example the British concession is on the island of Amoy – and nearly all the foreign residences are on the island of Kulangsu across the harbor. There is no fixed rule as to the area within which a foreigner may lease land, - it depends on the whim of the local authorities; but at Chefoo foreigners have land registered in their name 3 or 4 miles from the settlement – also at Swatow Wuhu &c. and very much so at Shanghai.

When the Local Authorities do make objections, it is not because the treaty forbids it; but because the land may be put to some use which would not suit them or because the influential neighbours oppose it; and then the would-be seller withdraws from his offer; so that we seldom have a chance of fighting out the case on its merits.

I have never been stationed in Formosa so I can't say what happened there under the Chinese regime.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Yours very truly,

Byron Brenan

19. J.N. Jordan¹⁰ to Satow (p. 56 in original file)

[Ans. Jan. 18]

Söul,

5 Jan, 1897

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

Mr. Chirol¹¹ tells me that you have been good enough to see that some things which he ordered for us in Tokyo are duly despatched and to advance the charges for freight, packing, etc. I am much indebted to you for your kindness and shall be obliged if you will cause me to be informed of the amount so that I may arrange to have it refunded to you.

I had intended to write to you before this, but I have always felt that there is little to communicate which can be of much interest to people outside of Korea. There is a haziness about everything here which is rather puzzling to a newcomer and closer contact with the country does not seem to help one very much to understand the situation. To my way of thinking it is highly unsatisfactory and is likely to become more so as time goes on. For us this can, I fear, be little more than a post of observation, for any position we ever occupied disappeared with the events of February last, and we are not again likely, so far as I can see, to have much opportunity of influencing the future of Korea. The Russians are gradually strengthening their grip and in a few years they ought to have consolidated their position sufficiently to make it practically impregnable. The Japanese, to all outward appearances, are keeping very quiet & merely watching the course of events. Their Consul at Chemulpo, Mr. Ishii, arrogates to himself rather wide powers of jurisdiction over Chinese and other nationalities, but here M. Kato is very moderate and reasonable.

The Chinese Gov[ernment], as you will have seen, has appointed a Consul-General and the Koreans are apparently prepared to the renewal of diplomatic representation without the preliminary of a Treaty. I am half inclined to think that the Japanese Consular action at Chemulpo is intended to force the Chinese to enter into Treaty relations with Korea, but

¹⁰ John Newell Jordan (1852-1925). British Consul-General in Korea (1896-98); Chargé d'Affaires (1898-1901); Minister Resident (1901-06); Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Peking (1906-20) after Sir Ernest Satow.

¹¹ Sir Ignatius Valentine Chirol (1852-1929, knighted 1912) was a British journalist, author, historian and diplomat.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

you will be able to judge of that much better than I can.

Mr. McLeavy Brown¹² continues to do excellent work in the finance department, but his tenure of office appears to me at times to be very precarious. There are several things any one of which might seriously affect his position, e.g. the withdrawal of the Chinese subsidy, a change of Russian Minister, etc.

I must apologize for inflicting this letter upon you on a subject which has, I fear, largely lost its interest. I shall of course be happy at all times to afford you any information I can.

Believe me

Yours Sincerely

J.N. Jordan

20. J.N. Jordan to Satow (p.60 in file)

Soul,

1st March, 1897.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I enclose an Order for H[?] 17.35 and ask you to accept our most sincere thanks for your kindness in forwarding the bamboo ware which has, I believe, safely reached Inchhön. I do not like the idea of having troubled you with a commission at a time when you must have been occupied with other matters and feel all the more indebted for your kindness.

Things are quiet here but there seems to be a tendency to go back to the old order of things as fast as possible.

I cannot see that there is much hope for the country.

Everybody is pleased with Mr. Kato's appointment which is accepted as an indication of a quiet future as far as Japanese policy is concerned.

With renewed thanks

Yours sincerely,

J.N. Jordan

Sir C. MacDonald has intimated his intention of coming across here in about a fortnight.

21. Someone to Satow (p. 62 in file)

Bangkok

¹² Sir John McLeavy Brown (1835-1926) joined the Chinese Imperial Customs Service in 1873. Sir Robert Hart offered him a position in the Korean Customs, and King Kojong made him financial advisor and Chief Commissioner of Customs in 1893. In August 1905 he left Korea.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

March 18/97

[Ansd.]

Dear Sir Ernest,

I was glad to get your letter from [I.V.] Chirol of the Times & to hear your good news of him. He was here almost in the thick of a new crisis in the French registration question, which has happily now passed away. DeFrance, the French minister, leaves in a few days & is to be succeeded by Raukot[?] from Madagascar. It remains to be seen whether the latter will continue the wholesale manufacture of French subjects in the Menam valley. It is hoped that the King when he goes to France will take the opportunity to make a permanent settlement with the French; but as he is averse to talking business when he is bent on pleasure it is possible that nothing will be done. [Consul General and chargé d'affaires] De Bunsen, I think, is now trying to make some arrangement at home as regards our own subjects. The King leaves early in April & intends to go to Venice, Switzerland, Italy, France, Germany, Russia, Denmark & London. He expects to get to England about the end of July & to come back here through Germany. It is a pity he will not go to Japan, but I daresay he will keep that trip back for some other holiday. On the whole, I think his trip home will do this country good as it may give an impetus to reforms after his return. Meanwhile I expect nothing will be done here while he is away & we look forward to a comparative rest. There is no news yet of our new Chief P. Greville from Budapest[?]. It is possible that he will not care to come out until after the hot weather which is now fairly on. We all however stand it very well. My family is no longer a small one – another addition, a little boy, was made to it last month, making the third. French as you may know, has retired. I think he did wisely, as he would certainly have been unhappy out here without his wife. I hope he will marry again. I hear nothing more about the negotiations with Japan for a Treaty. I think [Siamese Foreign Minister] Devan would probably like to go to Tokio about it himself, but I don't see how he can get away during the King's absence.

Yours sincerely

W.B. Behr [?]

22. T.R. Walker to Satow from Honolulu (p.66 in file)

H.B.M. Consulate-General

Honolulu: April 8th, 1897

Dear Sir,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

At the request of Mr. Hawes, who is at present visiting another island, I enclose to you a medical report, which I obtained yesterday, upon the condition of Mr. A. E. Wileman of Tokyo. Probably Mr. Hawes, or perhaps Mr. Wileman himself, has already informed H.M.'s Legation at Tokyo of the detention here of the latter through illness.

On his arrival here, about a month ago, Mr. Wileman seemed unwell and feverish; and a few days later, in pursuance of the advice of Doctor Herbert, who is a medical man of high standing here, he went into hospital.

I am glad to say that he appears to be regaining health.

I remain, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Rain[?] Walker

Enclosed Letter to Walker from Dr. George Herbert (p. 68 in file)

Apr. 7th 97

To T.R. Walker Esq,

British Vice-Consul

Honolulu

Dear Sir

At yr. request I advise you of the condition of – Wileman Esq. at present in Queen's Hospital. He has been improving steadily for the past week & I trust will be able to leave the Hospital in the course of 2 weeks providing he suffers no relapse after which as soon as his strength justifies it I shall advise him to continue on his journey Home.

Sincerely yours

George Herbert

23. W.J. Kenny to Satow (p. 70 in file)

British Consulate General,

Honolulu

Novr. 25, 1897

[Ans. 25/1/98]

Dear Sir Ernest,

I thank you very sincerely indeed for so kindly suggesting my name for this post. The appointment came quite as a surprise to me, and just at a time, too, when I was on the point

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

of returning to Tainan, reluctantly, to renew my acquaintance with the microbes there.

I have not quite settled down yet, and am living in the Hotel, and using the Vice-Consul's office temporarily, but have arranged to move into poor [Lieut. A.G.S.] Hawes's house in the beginning of next month, after the auction of his things takes place. He is spoken of with the greatest regret and affection by every one here, and I was received with additional warmth by every body, especially by the British community, when it became known that I was a friend of his.

I have paid all the necessary official calls, and have been gazetted as "acting Consul-General" by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that being the capacity in which I was telegraphically instructed to proceed here. Nothing has as yet arrived from the Foreign Office, and in the meantime I have written two despatches to Lord Salisbury, one on the Japanese immigration dispute, and the other on some long-standing claims which the Hawaiian Government obstinately refuse to pay. In the former I referred to two despatches on the question from you to Lord Salisbury this year, and enclosed a copy of the last Protocol from Japan to Hawaii and the Hawaiian Government's answer thereto, which I was able to obtain privately, and which, I am informed, went back to Japan about a month ago. I send you a copy of this document which may be interesting if you are not already acquainted with it. The red marks show the Hawaiian proposals in reply to the points which the Japanese are willing to submit to arbitration.

Mr. Shimamura informs me that his Government will not allow the question of the bona fide possession of \$50 to be discussed, as he satisfied himself at the time that the immigrants were actually in bona fide possession of the money, but the Hawaiian Gov[ernmen]t. are sure to bring this question on later, if arbitration ever takes place, as that was the ground they gave for rejecting the labourers.

The situation here is most critical and interesting just now – annexation [by the United States] is the only topic of conversation, and everybody appears to be more or less unsettled not knowing what is going to happen. The Treaty will probably come before the Senate early in January when the question will be settled either way.¹³ As far as I have been able to gather it, since my arrival, probably not less than 90% of the total population are against it. Those in favour of annexation are mostly Americans who are considerably less in

¹³ In 1898 President William McKinley signed the treaty of annexation, but it failed in the Senate. Then Hawaii was annexed by an Act of Congress called the Newlands Resolution which was approved on 4 July 1898 and signed by McKinley on July 7th. In 1900 Hawaii was granted self-governance and became a state in 1959.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

number than the European population (as 4 to 3) and are almost unanimously against it. The British alone number 2250 as against 3086 Americans, but 99% of the trade is with the United States.

The British Vice Consul, here, Mr. Walker, who is going home next month, has been of the greatest assistance to me. He wished particularly to meet you in case you should pass through on your way to Japan as he had heard so much about you from Hawes.

I should like very much to know how long or how short I may be here but suppose that is impossible to find out. I have taken Hawes's house for the remainder of the lease (5 months) and am wondering whether I shall be allowed to occupy it even for that time. Please excuse this short and hasty note and believe that I very much appreciate your kindness & shall endeavour to merit.

With kind regards very truly yours

W.J. Kenny

p. 74 in original file

1. Whether the action of the Hawaiian Government, in refusing to permit ~~to remain~~ to enter and reside in Hawaii ~~and in expelling therefrom~~, the Japanese subjects or any of them who were so refused ~~and expelled~~ was or was not in contravention of the international agreement subsisting between Japan and Hawaii or in disregard of the obligations and duties resting on Hawaii in her relations with Japan.
2. Whether, in any case, the refusal ~~and expulsion~~ by the Hawaiian Government of the Japanese subjects as aforesaid, or the proceedings leading up to and resulting in such refusal ~~and expulsion~~ was lawful and regular having in view the municipal laws of Hawaii.
3. Whether the action of the Hawaiian Government in forcibly ~~detaining on shore and~~ restraining and depriving of their liberties of the Japanese subjects or any of them who were ~~expelled from~~ refused landing in Hawaii, was in any case, lawful and consistent with ~~those~~ the remedial rights and ~~that constant and complete protection for their persons which all~~ Japanese subjects are entitled to receive and enjoy in Hawaii, in virtue of the provisions of provided by the Treaty of 1871, between Japan and Hawaii.
4. ~~Whether the action of the Hawaiian Government in not permitting the Japanese subjects or any of them, who were expelled from Hawaii, to employ lawyers, advocates or agents or to take legal advice, while they were restrained of their liberties, can be sustained, having regard to the rights or privileges in that behalf belonging to all Japanese subjects in~~

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

~~Hawaii, in virtue of the provisions of the Treaty aforesaid.~~

§ 4. Whether the Hawaiian Government afforded the Japanese subjects or any of them, ~~that free and easy access to the who were expelled from Hawaii~~ were refused landing in Hawaii ~~that free and easy~~ all access to the Hawaiian Courts of Justice, or extended to such subjects or any of them, ~~those~~ all the rights and privileges in the matter of the administration of Justice, and employment of counsel to which ~~all Japanese subjects are~~ they were entitled, in virtue of the provisions of the Treaty of 1871 aforesaid.

24. Jordan to Satow (p. 76 in original file)

[Ans. 8 Mar.]

Seoul,

6 February, 1898.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I received your private telegram about Pak Yong hio¹⁴ last night and sent you a reply this morning saying that if a favourable chance presented itself I would give advice in the sense suggested, but that up to the present I had not been consulted in the matter to which it referred.

Pak's estimate of the situation is, I think, a little too sanguine and gives me credit for exercising greater influence than I possess. There has no doubt been a temporary reaction against Russian proceedings due, in a great measure, to the presence of the British Squadron at Chemulpo which has encouraged the King and the more respectable portion of the officials to assert themselves so far as to get rid of the notorious Cho Pying sik and replace him in the Foreign Office by a comparatively unknown man who promises to be a less pronounced partisan than his predecessor. That is all that has actually happened so far, but there is abundant evidence to show that the King is meditating ways and means of loosening his Russian fetters. I doubt, however, if any of this has much chance of success,

¹⁴ On 4 February 1898 Satow wrote in his diary: "Two Koreans named 劉世南 and 申応熙 (i.e. Rui Sei Nan and Shin Ong-hi) called: the latter has been in America and speaks English fairly well, but we talked Japanese. He was one of those who fled from Korea after the failure of Kim Okkyun's attempt to kill Min Yong-ik in 1884. The object of their visit was to ask me to suggest to [British Consul General in Seoul John N.] Jordan to advise the King to recall Pak-yong-hyo [from exile in Japan]. The King and others are tired of the Russians, and Cho Pyong sik has been turned out. The English and U.S. ministers have been asked to help in selecting men to form a ministry. Said I had not seen Pak for so many years that I could not well interfere. Besides when he was in power before, he made himself obnoxious by introducing petty sumptuary regulations. Shin said he would not do that again. When he was in office, the peasants were contented."

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

and one of them – that of re-instating Brown in the Finance Dept. – he seems to have dropped as impracticable. That diplomatic Agreement of the 5th Novr. last is a strong weapon in De Speyer's hand and Alexeieff is too firmly installed to be ousted without a big trial of strength which the timid King is not prepared to face.

He would prefer to take up his quarters with me or to find a refuge in the American Legation and throw upon his host the responsibility of his action in evading his Russian guardians, but he is very averse to doing anything on his own account which will expose him to a singlehanded conflict with the Russian Legation.

Still, the dismissal of Cho may result in a general shuffling all round and the introduction of Pak, who seems to have a stronger individuality than most Koreans, might give the stiffening necessary to keep Russian & French demands within reasonable bounds. Specimens of the former at present under consideration are the peremptory request for the lease of 20 acres of ground for a Coal Depot at Fusan and the attempt to monopolize about a third or a fourth of the settlement areas at the new ports – Chinnampo & Mokpo. Except Kato & myself, no one is much opposed to either of these demands and in the end Russia will probably get her way.

De Speyer after having been a most active volcano for a few months, is now fairly reasonable and quite subdued. He is suffering from insomnia and is obliged to walk some ten miles a day which makes him comparatively harmless. He certainly made himself needlessly disagreeable at first to everybody here and seems now to realize that he went too far.

Brown retains in practice exclusive control over the Customs without any interference so far on the part of Alexeieff.

Thanking you for your telegram and regretting my inability to advance Pak's interests much at present.

I am

Yours very sincerely

J.N. Jordan

25. Byron Brennan to Satow (p. 80 in original file)

Shanghai 14 June 1898

[Ans 25/6]

Dear Sir Ernest,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Mr Cowan delivered to me your letter for the Admiral today. I have entrusted it to the Captain of the "Alquine"[?] who communicates with the Admiral by every safe opportunity.

Thank you for your good wishes. Shanghai is refreshing after Canton. I don't know how long I shall be here but if Jamieson returns I shall go on leave.

As you know, Woosung is to be opened to foreign trade. In virtue of the Protocol of 19 Oct 1896 signed by Hayashi at Peking Japan is claiming a settlement exclusively for the use of Japanese. The Chinese here are jibbing at it firstly because the claim is a forced interpretation of the protocol, secondly because Woosung is not a "Treaty" port, but opened voluntarily. If the Japanese insist, so will all the Treaty powers, and then there won't be enough Woosung mud to go round. I am working for a general settlement for all Treaty Powers; if the Chinese would concede that, the Japanese would have to go outside if they wanted anything exclusively for themselves, but the Chinese have a big land speculation of their own, and they want to pen all foreigners into the area which has already been bought up by the official ring.

All this may or may not interest you.

Yours very truly

Byron Brenan

26. Jordan to Satow (p. 82 in original file)

Renewal of Treaty Relations between China & Corea is likely to be soon realized.

Seoul,

17 Augt., 1898

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I am much indebted to you for your kindness in telegraphing the Marquis Ito's departure and for the advice which accompanied the message. I shall make a point of doing what I can to cultivate his acquaintance, though my wife's condition may prevent us from doing as much as we could have wished. I have seen but little lately of Kato who has been much occupied and not very well. He has been making a hard struggle for his railway concession but is not likely, I fear, to succeed. I have not had much better success with a Mining Concession which I have been trying for months past to get for Pritchard Morgan's representatives.¹⁵ The terms were finally arranged and everything prepared for signature

¹⁵ Mining concessions in Korea were given to Russian and American concessionaires in 1896, German

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

some weeks ago, but in spite of repeated promises, the document still remains unsigned. Now that all outside pressure has been withdrawn, the Koreans have become very obstreperous and quite regardless of all engagements. The Russians and Japanese have, they think, tied each others' hands and other Powers are not sufficiently interested to cause them any trouble. The Russian attitude is a passive one for the moment and Japan's activity, although markedly on the increase, has as yet affected nothing.

The Independence Club is the dominant factor in Korean politics at present. It looked some weeks ago as if the struggle between it & the Emperor must end in the disappearance of one of them but lately the tension has somewhat relaxed. The state of things generally is gradually getting worse and must end in chaos.

I have been without any assistance since Joly's death which may explain the paucity of my reports – not a great loss I imagine.

With renewed thanks for your telegram

Believe me

Yours sincerely

J.N. Jordan

27. Jordan to Satow (p. 84 in original file)

[Ans. 7/9/98]

Seoul,

August 30, 1898

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

The Marquis Ito left early this morning after a stay of four days in Seoul. I did what I could to cultivate his acquaintance but there was very little opportunity of doing so. I called at the Japanese Legation the morning after his arrival and arranged with Kato to invite the Marquis and the Members of his Suite to dinner on the only day that they were supposed to be disengaged. However, a Korean entertainment intervened and they were all obliged to decline. They all called at the various Legations and last night there was a reception at the Japanese Legation which was rather a crush. I saw a good deal of Zumoto¹⁶ and Narahara

in 1897, British in 1898 and German again in 1900. The scramble for concessions among the powers for mines, railways, timber rights, electric plants, water works etc. in both China and Korea has been described as 'concession imperialism'. (Peter Duus, *The Abacus and the Sword*, pp. 103-104).

¹⁶ Zumoto Motosada started the *Japan Times* in 1897 and became Ito Hirobumi's secretary in 1898. He sold the paper to Takahashi Kazutomo.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

both of whom seemed nice & interesting.

The Marquis himself was rather fatigued and out of sorts – so much so that he has gone to Chemulpo to have a rest before starting for China. He spoke in a more hopeful strain about the future of Corea than most of us here are in the habit of doing. I shall send you a copy of my brief official account of the visit as soon as I can get it copied.

The visit appears to have had two results – the retention of Kato for which I am personally thankful, and the concession, in principle at least, of the Seoul-Fusan railway which is also, from my way of looking at things a very desirable object as tending to equalize the position of the two Powers most closely interested in this country.

Brown had a telegram from Peking some days ago announcing the appointment of Pavlov as Minister Resident here, but the news has not been confirmed and I sincerely hope it will turn out to be untrue. The present man, Matunine, is very friendly & reasonable.

The Marquis Ito evinced a keen interest in the prospect of the renewal of Treaty relations between China & Corea and gave me to understand that he would use his influence with Li Hung chang to prevent any hitch in the negotiations.

Yours sincerely

J.N. Jordan

28. Hugh Grosvenor to Satow

Peking

12 October 1898

Dear Sir Ernest

I have sent you the quails by Marquis Ito's Secretary who I hope will deliver them safely. They are not the original ones as the man would not listen to reason at all as regarded price – but they are almost exactly the same and better both as to material and workmanship than the ones which Lambton & I saw and liked so much so I think I was really lucky in getting them for 300 dollars.

We have been going through quite a lively time lately. The assumption of power by the Empress Dowager is a Manchu reaction against the reforms introduced by the Emperor and his band of Cantonese visionaries, brought about particularly by the indignation which was felt at the proposal to adopt European dress and discard the pigtail.

All the reforms which had been introduced have now been rescinded and the present administration composed almost exclusively of Manchu officials is not only extremely

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

retrograde but also very anti-foreign. All officials who have had anything to do with the Foreign Legations, or who in the provinces have shown themselves favourable to foreign enterprise, that is all those who have not been got rid of in some way or other, are trembling for their lives and doing their best to get away. Li Hung Chang himself in spite of the friendship of the Empress is not at all in a contented state of mind.

It is also a very cruel regime and the Palace seems to be becoming a perfect Benin. Every day one hears of people tied up in sacks and beaten “jusqu’à ce qu’ils ne revivent plus” as I was told by a Chinaman from the Palace who speaks French. Of course there is a good deal of discontent and a large party even in the palace would be glad to see the Emperor back in power – that is if he is still alive at the moment of writing and some of the provincial office may give trouble yet.

Please give my love to Paget. Would you send a cheque to my account at the HK & S Bank at Shanghai for what I paid for the quails. I hope I was not rating Ito’s honesty too high in entrusting them to him and that he won’t put them in his pocket and fly to America. I expect to go home in about a month now.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Grosvenor

29. Satow to Jordan (p. 90 in original file)

Copy

Tokio

8 Dec. 1898

Dear Mr. Jordan,

My Corean Colleague Mr. Ye Ha-yung has offered to carry letters to you, & tho’ there is nothing special to write, I am entrusting this to his care. If you do not know him already, I think you will like to make his acquaintance. He is a man distinguished by great good sense and tact. You seem to have had rather trying times lately at Söul. The newspapers are full of corresp[onden]ce. fr[om]. there & teleg[ram]s. arrive daily, but of course one cannot rely on the press for accurate or unbiassed information. You can see however that what goes on in Corea is of great interest to Japan.

E.S.

30. Jordan to Satow (p. 91 in original file)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Seoul,

12 January 1899

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

Your letter of the 8th Dec[embe]r. was forwarded to me yesterday by Mr. Ye Ha-yung who has not yet put in an appearance in person but intimated his intention of calling in a few days. I know him pretty well and like him better than most Coreans. Things here are, to use the stereotyped phrase, in a very unsettled state. The agitation for reform has temporarily collapsed, but there can be nothing like permanent tranquillity as long as the causes of the discontent remain unredressed and the Emperor and the Palace party have no intention of yielding to the popular demand. Had the Emperor been a moderately strong & intelligent man, there was, I am sanguine enough to think, just a gleam of hope that the concession of a few reforms and the selection of some of the more respectable officials to carry them out might have enabled the country to utilize the present opportunity of working out its own salvation, but as things are now going, it looks as if foreign intervention could scarcely be avoided. It may be deferred for a few years but even this postponement will be due, not to any action on the part of Corea, but to the nice balancing of the surrounding forces. The Japanese Minister, [Secretary of U.S. Legation] Dr. Allen and I have done all we could to make the Emperor realize the necessity of introducing better government but he is a hopelessly weak and mischievous ruler who prides himself on deceiving everybody and deceives nobody, for no one any longer trusts him. His very good nature is one of his worst faults.

The Russians don't seem to mind seeing things drifting into a state of chaos and perhaps think it will give them a chance of modifying their arrangement with Japan which ties their hands too much.

Matunine who has been my friend and conciliatory has been removed to make room for Pavloff, whose previous record in Peking is calculated to make one doubtful about his proving to be an agreeable colleague. Dr. Allen, too, with whom we have worked in harmony is going home on leave and Sands who is taking his place won't carry much weight.

I am glad you think the Japanese Gov[ernmen]t. is paying attention to Corea. I like Kato very much, but I can see from Hioki who was in charge during his absence & other members of the Legation that they think he gives his Government a too rose coloured view of what passes here. Hioki, for instance, told me in confidence that the financial state of

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Corea was not sufficiently appreciated in Japan and that the Gov[ernmen]t. seemed to him quite unprepared for the serious turn recent events seemed at one time to be taking. This may, of course, be purely the criticism of a locum tenens ['place-holder', temporary performing the duties of another] inclined, if anything, to be too active. Kato commands the confidence of the Koreans and disarms opposition in other quarters by his very quiet & modest manner.

Japanese interests have certainly been consolidated greatly during the past two years in a variety of ways, e.g. the opening of new ports & the acquisition of Railway concessions, and from any point of view that is a desirable object.

I must apologize for the length of this letter.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

J.N. Jordan

31. Jordan to Satow (p. 95 in original file)

Seoul,

January 13, 1899

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I have just received your note of the 2nd inst. with the accompanying envelope and I have taken steps which will, I hope, ensure greater care in the future. This piece of carelessness was quite unjustified as I have always expressed a wish that every cover should be sealed.

Thanking you for drawing my attention to this matter.

I am

Yours sincerely

J.N. Jordan

32. Jordan to Satow (p. 96 in original file)

Seoul,

15 February, 1899

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 2nd inst., and the enclosure which accompanied it from [President of the Independence Association] An Kyōng Su ¹⁷ Your estimate of that

¹⁷ Satow spoke about An to Aoki on 25 January 1899. "He said An was an unreliable man, tho' clever. I

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

person's character seems to be pretty correct and I am sorry to say that many of these would-be reformers are disappointing their friends.

For some time I had a faint hope that the movement might lead to a better order of things and I gave it such support and encouragement as I properly could. But some of the leaders accepted office and from all accounts are as keen about the spoils as the predecessors whom they denounced.

One of the reform party – Yi Wan Yong – a man of some enlightenment in whose integrity I had much confidence went down some months ago as Governor of Chulla Do and Missionaries residing in the district tell me that he is fleecing the people unmercifully. Yun Ch'i ho, the ex-President of the Independence Club, is going as Superintendent of Customs to Wonsan, and many of the others seem willing to make terms with the Gov[ernmen]t. For the moment at all events the policy of reaction is in the ascendant and all the abuses which the agitation kept in check are being revived in all their vigour.

Pavlov is showing signs of activity, chiefly in Customs questions, and is reverting to the line Waeber used to adopt of conciliating and humouring the Emperor in all his whims and follies.

The Chinese Envoy is making [a] good ~~progress~~ start with his Treaty negotiations and will, I expect, be shortly in a position to relieve us of the charge of Chinese interests. The question of ex-territoriality will probably prove a difficulty.

So many thanks for sending me the debate on the purchase of the Seoul-Chemulpo railway – it threw a light upon many little incidents which were not very intelligible at the time.

Yours very sincerely,

J.N. Jordan

33. Julian Pauncefote to Satow (p. 98 in original file)

BRITISH EMBASSY

WASHINGTON

14 April 1899

told him that An wanted me to ask Jordan to advise the King to come to terms with the reformers and I had promised to send Jordan anything he might write. But as to Corea, Great Britain had only secondary interests, and that Japan and Russia were nearer. Aoki observed as to this that Japan would arrange direct with Russia without English intervention, to which I rejoined that we should observe a disinterested attitude, but that Japan had our sympathy.” (Satow's diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

My dear Satow,

Allow me to present to you a distinguished colleague of mine in Washington Señor Don Carlos Morla Vicuna, Chilean Minister to the U.S.¹⁸ who is also accredited to Japan & is about to visit that country with his family.

I commend them particularly to your good offices, and any attention & kindness you may be able to show them will be much appreciated by

Yours sincerely

Julian Pauncefote

34. Jordan to Satow (p. 100 in original file)

[Recd. May 3]

Seoul,

25 April, 1899

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I am much indebted to you for sending me the account of your conversation with Viscount Aoki.¹⁹ He seems to take a somewhat exaggerated view of the importance of recent Russian doings in Corea, but still what he said was very interesting.

I had intended to give you my remarks I had to make in a private letter, but as the conversation touched upon some points of which I have taken little notice before, I thought it better to repair past omissions by embodying my observations in a despatch to the F.O. Changes of ministry are so frequent and generally mean so little that I seldom report them.

I don't remember having mentioned the Lady Om before and your despatch gave me an opportunity of explaining who she was. I am afraid I err on the side of writing too much and yet occasionally one is reminded of things which have not received mention.

Pavlov's locum tenens has arrived and he goes on home leave in a few days via Japan

¹⁸ Satow was with Vicuña at Chuzenji on 28 August 1899. (Diary)

¹⁹ This is probably the conversation described in Satow's diary for 30 March 1899. "Went to Aoki. He spoke very strongly about Russia in Corea. There is an idea of bringing a railway from Vladivostock thro' N. Corea to a port on the Gulf of Pechili. If Russia has Corea Japan cannot sleep in peace. Unfortunately the interests of England there are not sufficient to make it worth her while to support Japanese policy. But if Russia gets command of the peninsula she will have a great and damaging position as regards commercial nations. I observed that Japan would not be ready [for war] till 1903. He replied she might be obliged to act before. I said there was no likelihood of her finding money for the Söul-Fusan railway, which he admitted. He does not like the Russians obtaining land for nominal whale fishery, and Japan must follow their example. Om, the King's concubine is ambitious of becoming Empress and the Russians back her."

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

and the U.S. He has been a thorn in Brown's side.

Yours very sincerely

J.N. Jordan

P.S. Your despatch must have been detained somewhere on the way, but this is not an unusual experience here. Whatever it may be in Japan, the Japanese Postal Administration in Korea is certainly very inefficient.

J.N.J.

35. O'Connor to Satow (p. 102 in original file)

[ansd. 16/8]

Therapia

June 28/99

My dear Satow,

Your nephew [Harold Satow, son of Ernest's younger brother Sam] arrived here last week & I was glad for the present to be able to attach him to the Chancery. He will get an idea of the general work of the [Constantinople] Embassy & make friends & generally find his way. He is a very nice boy & the Chancery are glad to have him. I hope he will emulate his distinguished uncle & rise to the top of the ladder.

Yours very truly

N.R. O'Connor²⁰

36. Henry G.O. Bax-Ironside (First Secretary at Peking) to Satow (p. 103 in file)

British Legation, Peking

Private

October 2, 1899

Dear Sir Ernest,

Your private letter of the 21st ulto. was handed to me by [Admiral] Sir E. Seymour at Wei hai wei last week.

The rumour you refer to has certainly been, to some extent, prevalent but it has now died away. It is, as you know, very difficult to sift the chaff from the wheat in this capital. Both the Japanese Minister & the First Secretary, when pressed, deny the possibility of a rupture

²⁰ O'Connor left Peking in October 1895 to become ambassador at St. Petersburg. In July 1898 he was transferred to Constantinople. (*Dictionary of National Biography*, 1901-11)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

of relations, but they are both somewhat secretive.

It is openly stated in Peking that Yano [Fumio, Japanese Minister at Peking] will be made an Ambassador & that China will send an Ambassador to Tokio but I have not reported this home as Yano is still at the Hills & I purpose mentioning the matter to him on his return. It is common gossip amongst the hangers on at the Yamen.²¹

I expect [Minister at Peking Sir Claude] MacDonald back next month & I shall return for a well-earned holiday.

Yours very truly

H.O. Bax-Ironside

37. James McIvor MacLeod (Vice Consul at Fez) to Satow (p. 105 in original file)

22nd June 1900

Dear Sir Ernest,

Thank you very much for your letter of 16 April and your photograph.²² It is a marvellously good likeness and so finely finished that I have not been able to bring myself to put it up in so work-a-day spot as this office. So I have made a slightly enlarged copy of it with my own Camera and will make it do for the office while, if you have no objections, the fine one goes up in the Drawing Room!

You will of course have heard thro the newspapers of the late extraordinary mortality amongst the chief functionaries of the Court. Sid Said, Sid Dus, Kaid Dus Ben Allam, Bu Hamet himself, the Governor of Mequinez and several lesser lights all have gone out in close succession, all too quite in the order of nature.

Nearly every European has been much surprised at the indifference – indeed one might call it the contempt – the whole country has shown about Bu Hamet's death. The Fez world merely sneered "Oh Bu Hamet is dead is he! Ah well, there are many Vizirs!"

The new Grand Vizir is Hadj Mukhta Ben Abdallah whom you may perhaps recollect as Viceroy's Vizir at Fez during your stay in Morocco, and whose various shortcomings and excesses used simply to force themselves often into our correspondence. Happily for Morocco he seems not to have been granted any of the Regent-like powers held by Bu Hamet and he is not, I think, the kind of man likely to acquire them.

Yes Abdelmedged Tassy who died was the individual you refer [to]. His wife was a

²¹ Tsungli Yamen, Chinese Foreign Office.

²² Satow was still in Tokyo when he wrote the letter referred to. He left Yokohama for England on 4 May 1900.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. British diplomatic representatives elsewhere. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/8. August 1895-June 1900)

Circassian but having lived some years with him in England could speak some English.

The Basha of Tangier (the same who was there during your stay) has been made Governor of Fez, and is expected here in a few days. From all I hear he is not a specially bad man, but even if he were I suppose we would get on all right together.

The excitement near Tafilet²³ about the recent advances by the French seems to be steadily subsiding, and there is no sign of disquietude elsewhere so I am beginning to be hopeful of getting some leave about the end of July, (I tried to get it for the end of June!) and you may be sure I will not fail to call upon you should I manage to reach England before your holiday ends.

Trusting you are in good health and enjoying your leave, I remain, Sir,

Yours very faithfully

J.M. MacLeod

P.S. My edition of Leikchundi's[?] Moorish Arabic has had the misfortune to be prematurely born!²⁴

It has been put on sale, but by the carelessness or stupidity of the printers no notice was taken of the last revisions, corrections of misprints and the like I had done and forwarded and so the book is painfully disfigured with misprints of the English letter press. The Arabic was checked by a Syrian proof reader so it is not so bad. I am of course urging them to stop the sale of the book but as Father Cervera is at Marrakesh with the Spanish Mission it will be some time before that can be done.

[End of File]

²³ Tafilet is the most important oasis of the Moroccan Sahara.

²⁴ MacLeod's version was a translation into English from Spanish, published by the Spanish Catholic Mission Press in Tangier, 1900.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Colonial and Indian authorities.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/9. January-May 1896)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/9

**Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Colonial and India
authorities. (January-May 1896)**

1. George A. Parker¹ to Sir E.M. Satow

[ans. 19 Feb. 1896]

High Court

Madras

Jan 28th 1896

Dear Sir,

I am about to make a tour in Japan on my way homewards on retirement from the Bench of this Court & hope to arrive at Kobè [sic.] by P[eninsular]. & O[riental]. S.S. “Rosetta” abt. March 6th. I believe I should apply to you to obtain a passport. I should be much obliged if you w[oul]d. obtain me one wh[ic]h. I might receive at Kobè on arrival. I wish to remain in Japan till ab[ou]t. the end of April & then proceed by C[anadian].P[acific]. st[eam]r. to Vancouver. I suppose there are probably some fees to be paid, wh[ic]h. I could pay at Kobè on arrival.

With many apologies for troubling you, I am,

Y[ou]rs very truly,

George A. Parker

2. J.H. Want² to Satow

Simonocetty [Shimonoseki?]

11th July 96

Dear Sir Ernest,

I leave Japan today arriving at Honkong on the 17th, start from there on the 19th and reach Colombo on the 1st March. If you have any success in the matter we were discussing I should take it as a great favour if you could send me a cable simply saying “Successful” or “unsuccessful” as the case may be. My code word is “Teraeba” at either place.

Although my time has been short I have seen quite sufficient to justify me in advising my Government not to accept the Treaty as it at present stands and I am sure the other

¹ Sir George Arthur Parker (1843-1900). Educated at Uppingham and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Puisne Judge of the High Court, Madras 1885-96. (*Dictionary of Indian Biography*)

² John Henry Want, Attorney General, New South Wales, 1894-99.

Colonies will follow suit. We should gain nothing and risk a great danger. There is little or no market for our goods in Japan while Japan must now find (and does find) a good market for her commerce. Under these circumstances if we stand out[?] from the Treaty Japan is not likely to interfere with our present friendly relations, commercial & social and we should therefore remain as we are with all possible advantages and no loss[?]. I wish you clearly to understand that this is only a semi-official letter but I am quite sure that if the alteration you suggested could be brought about all the Colonies would feel disposed to join in the Treaty – without this alteration they would surely stand aloof. The people are not in any way unfriendly, on the contrary we have rather a liking for the Japanese but what we wish to guard against is the mere possibility of wholesale immigration (as in Honolulu) which I take it would be just as objectionable to the Japanese Government as to ourselves.

I can not help thinking that a calm consideration of all these facts must show that Japan could lose nothing by the proviso as to domestic legislation on the part of the Colonies. They stand on quite a different footing to England and are exposed to dangers which are quite absent in her case. All our Governments are naturally anxious to join England if possible and I earnestly hope to hear from you that you have been successful. I have wired my Government to do nothing until I return but should I receive good news from you I can of course let them know what to do without giving my authority[?] unless you cause the matter to be made known officially through the English Government. I am much indebted to the British Consul at Kobe for a very able and comprehensive report on the Commerce of Japan which tends strongly to confirm the views that I had formed from my own personal observations.

I take the liberty of writing to you privately as you were good enough to say you would assist me in this matter which has been one of grave importance and food for anxious thought on the part of our Colonial Government. It is just possible I may return in April unless I hear something which renders it unnecessary.

Yours Truly

J.H. Want

3. Sir William Robinson³ to Satow (p. 8 of original file)

13 May 96

Government House

³ Sir William Robinson was Governor of Hong Kong, 1891-98.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Colonial and Indian authorities.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/9. January-May 1896)

Hong Kong

Dear Sir Ernest,

I referred the young Professor's letter ["M. Revon – see Miscellaneous" written in blue crayon here] to the Acting C[hief].J[ustice]. here and enclose his reply. I am very much obliged to you for your kind invitation. I am afraid I shall not be able to visit Japan this year.

I recollect Nikko as a very charming spot.

With kind regards

Believe me truly yours

William Robinson

Enclosed letter (p. 10 of original file)

Supreme Court

May 12 /96

Dear Sir William Robinson,

I am not aware of any Book on "l'organisation judiciaire des Colonies Anglaises" but the following Books may be of use to the Professor.

1st . Colonial Office List, publ'd by Harrison & Sons 59 Pall Mall London

2nd . Tarring's Law relating to the Colonies publ'd. by Sweet & Maxwell 8 Chancery Lane London

3rd . Tarrings Consular Jurisdiction in the East. Sweet & Maxwell so far as Consular Judicial work is concerned.

Clarkes' Colonial law is an old work but I believe out of print.

The truth is, Courts were established by the Queen in each separate Colony according to its needs at the time of such establishment. The tendency has been to assimilate as time goes on to the English model in law and the Judges in the Colonies, have been given similar jurisdiction there to that of the Lord Chancellor in Equity &c. and of the Chief Justice of the Queens Bench in other jurisdictions, and as regards Admiralty jurisdiction it has been conferred of a kind similar to that of the Admiralty Court in England, Colonial decisions in the last resort being subject to Appeal to the Queen in theory; and in practice to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. I only mentioned the Colonial Office List because it generally specifies the kind of law in force in each Colony & states who are the Judges &c.

Believe me

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Colonial and Indian authorities.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/9. January-May 1896)

Sincerely Yours

W.M. Leigh[?] Goodman

H.E.

Sir Wm. Robinson K.C.M.G.

[End of file.]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (August 1895-April 1900)

1. Admiral Alexander Buller¹ to Satow

H.M.S. Centurion

Hakodate

Aug. 28. 95

My dear Satow

I am sending you an Official to ask permission to carry out some Submarine Mining next week at Mouran Endermo.² The Mines will be all dummies.

The Japs have so many fads now a days I think it is best to get permission or some of the local authorities at Mouran [Muroran] might be teleg. to Head Qrs. – Today we were sounding & preparing to take root! on Japanese soil. Submarine practice has to be carried out every quarter by Squadrons. Adm[irals]. Itō or Saigo would quite understand the Evolution. Will you send me a wire here as soon as you can? The Japanese Boss of Hakodate has been at Kyoto – or Tokio – for over 3 months & the only official here is – well he calls himself – The Secretary.

I was very delighted to see your app[ointmen]t to Tokio and my hearty Congrats on the honors bestowed upon you, & which you have worked hard for. I intend to remain for another month in Yesso [Ezo, Hokkaidō]. And if the Cholera has disappeared at Yokohama, I shall bring the Squad[ron] there for ten days before going to H. Kong.

My kind remem[brance]s to Lowther & his sister. The Japs won't let any foreign ships visit Awomori, and yesterday Commodore Bayle in "Duquay Frouin" went over there. German Admiral & I feel very hurt (?) but no doubt will survive the slight. It's lovely weather here and up Gulf of Tartary delightfully cool. Ther[mometer] down to 52°.

¹ Admiral Sir Alexander Buller GCB (1834-1903) was a Royal Navy officer. He was appointed Commander-in-Chief, China Station in 1895. Buller had to respond to the Far Eastern Crisis of 1897-8 when the Russian Pacific Fleet threatened to attack the Port of Chemulpo to back up Russia's demands for a coaling station at Deer Island. He despatched eight warships to Korea and the Russian forces promptly retreated. The fact that the Japanese Government had also put three battleships and ten cruisers at his disposal may have also influenced the outcome. Buller was succeeded as Commander-in-Chief in 1898 by Admiral Seymour (see letter no. 62 below) and retired in 1899.

² Endermo was the name given on naval charts for Muroran 室蘭 in Hokkaido. See Henry Bonar writing from Hakodate to Satow on 10 September 1896 in which he criticises the use of old names on Admiralty charts. (PRO 30/33 5/7, Volume One, p. 248)

Yours most truly,
Alex. Buller

2. Buller to Satow (p. 6 of original file)

Hakodate

H.M.S. Centurion

2nd Sept. 1895

My dear Satow

Many thanks to you for so promptly getting permission to carry out the Torpedo practice at Endermo. And had it not been for the wretched Kuching affair, I should be now en route to Endermo.

Whether the Chinese Govt. will act with sufficient firmness to satisfy the English Governmt. remains to be seen – As far as I can learn, the President of C. of Inquiry is entirely opposed to the Foreigners – if so we shall not get any satisfaction out of him.

If you hear any news about it – do let me know. I hear from Sir N. O'Connor but letters take a month & "Wires" are not too satisfactory.

I hope to meet you before going South but shall not touch at Yoko. if affairs are not running smooth at Kucheng.

Yours very truly
Alex Buller

3. Buller to Satow (p. 8 of original file)

Hakodate

H.M.S. Centurion

Sep. 5. 1896.

My dear Satow

Your's of Sep 1 reached me yesterday. Thanks for it & for kindly offering to arrange about Awomori. It is too late now - & I do not care about visiting the place. It would have been a convenience some six weeks ago when I had Officers & Men coming up from Yoko. The steamer that runs between this & Awomori is a very small concern!

My plans are very uncertain until we know more about result of the Enquiry at Kucheng.

I have delayed my visit to Endermo in consequence, but hope to get there later on - & have the Torpedo practice.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

Many thanks for your hospitable invitation to Tokio.

4. Buller to Satow (p. 10 of original file)

Endermo Bay

Yesso Isld.

H.M.S. Centurion

Sept. 14. 1895

My dear Satow

Thanks for your Teleg. about Takao & Amping [Anping]. My Telegaph will have informed you how matters stand. The 2 Britishers at Amping refused to embark on Rainbow and remain at their own risk.

It will be a good job when the Japanese get complete possession of Formosa. I am much obliged for your Teleg. My intention is to remain here till the 20th and then go to Walvis Bay. Letters or Teleg. to Hakodate will find me.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

5. Buller to Satow (p. 12 of original file)

Sept. 22. 1895

H.M.S. Centurion

My dear Satow

I leave tomorrow at 1 o cl[ock] in Centurion for Nagasaki – and go on immediately in Alacrity probably to Yangste [Yangtse] River. It depends much on what I hear from O’Conor on arrival at Nagasaki.

The mistake in transmitting the Teleg from London to me conveyed exactly the opposite meaning. The correct version is

Governt have accepted the representations of Minister. China, a demonstration in force is necessary.

Only just received the Teleg. wh. simplifies matters & I know what to be about.

If any news let me know.

British Admiral Shanghai will find me as I shall keep a ship to wire on to me.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

I hope you will say something civil to the [Belgian minister in Japan] Baron d'Anethan. We are old acquaintance, and it was kind of him asking me to dinner.

6. Buller to Satow (p. 14 of original file)

Shanghai

H.M.S. Alacrity

Sept. 30. 1895.

My dear Satow

The idea is prevalent that Squad. [the China Squadron] is concentrating at Chefoo – in connection with Corean business – to back up Japan. The Papers have only just woke up to the fact that we have 8 ships up the Yangste [sic.]! Chinese are more inclined to listen to [British Minister at Peking N.R.] O'Connor, & he is in hopes by last wire to me that it will be unnecessary to use force – but ships are all ready for anything – and if necessary will be able to talk forcibly to the Chinese. I returned the Shanghai Gazettes. The abuse and sarcasm of the Editor against me was amusing except when he stated that 3 times I had taken the opportunity of thwarting the Minister of Peking. Entirely false. The Anping business was the only point we differed on when he changed his mind and wished me to do the same & countermand my orders to re-embark & O'Connor has written me a very kind letter on the subject & acknowledges under the difficulties of ships remaining off the anchorage it was the best policy to withdraw. I shd. be sorry that the day should ever arrive when the Navy did not support with all their power and energy the requests of our British Ministers. Hoping you are well.

Believe me

Yours most truly

Alex: Buller

7. Buller to Satow (p. 17 of original file)

[Recd. Nov. 15. Ansd. Nov. 15]

H.M.S. Alacrity

Pagoda Anchorage

Oct. 26. 1895

My dear Satow

I am sending you all the information I have concerning the Yayeyama & Thales affair. Immediately I heard from Gardner Consul of Amoy I sent off Archer to the Japse. Adm. at Formosa – asking him if he could give me any explanation of the affair – as represented to me. I am afraid the young Japanese Naval Officers are inclined to be cocky – very different to their elders. If the case is clearly proved, I hope the full satisfaction will be demanded.

Tomorrow I expect Consul Mansfield back from Kucheng. The officials are doing all they can to assist him & he hopes the Vegetarian Sect will be broken up. As soon as he returns I shall move on to Amoy, Formosa & H. Kong. Latter place is my address for Teleg or letters.

Yours most Truly

Alex: Buller

I am much obliged to you for wiring abt Russian Squad having sailed from Hakodate. I have not heard where they have turned up? What will be the outlook of Korean affairs?

8. Buller to Satow (p. 19 of original file)

[Ans. 5 Dec.]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

Nov. 15 95

My dear Satow

Many thanks for your letter of 15 Nov. I am glad that the Japanese have acknowledged their mistake – in re Thales v Yayeyama. I was informed by “Cass” – owner of Thales at Amoy that he did not wish to claim any indemnity. The detention lost the Steamer one trip to Formosa – but Thales does all the business between Takow and Amoy so Cass does not wish to fall out with the Japanese. Of course I told him that the form of reparation rested entirely with the Govt and our Minister in Tokio.

Your advice to the Japanese Govt. is very sound. They are not in a position to x [cross] swords with Russia – but the day of reckoning will come! I do feel that it is hard for the Japanese to be forced into giving up all that they have fought for & won. I leave today for Singapore, returning here end of Dec[ember]. All Teleg or letters should be addressed to Hong Kong.

Thanks for your kind words about Foochow & Yangste. I am glad the affairs were settled

without having to sit upon a Country which is in such a lamentable state as China now is in.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

I have re-opened my letter to thank you for yours of 16 Oct. just come. Chan Chihtung was really ill and sent me a message to say he hoped next time I was at Nanking that he might have the pleasure of exchanging visits. For some days before my arrival, the Consul ascertained that a substitute was carrying on all official business.

This sad disaster to Edgar's Boats' crew has been received with great sorrow by the Squad. The Cause of Boat foundering – No. of men lost 48 – has not been communicated to me but [I] hope to hear before sailing.

She was under orders to leave Chemulpo at end of this month for Yokohama – but will be now be ['be' written twice] detained at Nagasaki for C[ourt] of Inquiry.

Yours truly

A. Buller

9. Buller to Satow (p. 23 of original file)

[Recd. Dec. 19 Ans 24]

H.M.S. Alacrity

Singapore

Dec. 4 '95

My dear Satow

I was sorry to hear judging[?] by your Teleg. that the Japanese had refused to make the 'amende' by saluting the English Flag in acknowledgement for the error that was made in Re Yayeyama v Thales. It was the proper reparation that one nation shd make to another - & there the matter would have ended.

I am afraid there is a subtle enemy in the background who has persuaded the Japanese to make difficulties, & not adhere to the first arrangement.

To supercede the Admiral simply means putting him immediately into a more important position. The Szechuan, in [the] Kucheng affair, would have been settled without the unsavoury task of having to threaten by force had China been left to her own devices, and I can trace the same game being now played with Turkey.

I am now weighing for N. Borneo – Sandakan sa – but any Teleg. to Hong Kong will be forwarded. I hope to reach the latter place by 20 Dec. & no doubt long ere that the Japanese

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

will have become amenable to reason.

The Japanese Admiral committed a just[?] breach of international law & the Country ought not to make any difficulties in acknowledging it.

I had a long chat with Sir N. O'Connor when he passed thro' here in P. & O. Steamer. He seems very pleased at his appt. to St. Petersburg. A nice change from Peking!

Mrs. Buller arrived last week & is going to Hong Kong with me in Alacrity.

Hoping you are well.

Believe me

Yours most truly

Alex. Buller

10. Captain W.H. Henderson to Satow (p. 27 of original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Nagasaki

Dec. 9th. 95

Dear Sir Ernest,

I expect to be for some little while Senior Officer in Japan and propose if nothing prevents arriving at Yokohama about the 20th or 21st where I may remain some time.

The Pique is under [missing word: weigh?] and the end of this week goes to Port Hamilton³ for practices & will spend her time at Kobe.

Very truly yours

W.H. Henderson

11. Buller to Satow (p. 29 of original file)

[Ans. Jan. 23rd]

H.M.S. Centurion

H. Kong

4.1.96

³ Port Hamilton or Komundo is a small group of islands in the Cheju strait off the southern coast of the Korean peninsula. There was a British naval base on Observatory island from 1885 to 1887 and British navy ships continued to call there after 1910 when Japan annexed Korea. They still do so occasionally, and in 1984 Jim Hoare took a plaque to the islands commemorating the British occupation. The U.K. Government pays for the upkeep of the graves.

My dear Satow

I am much obliged to you for all your letters keeping me au fait of the Thales v. Yayeyama affair.

I cannot quite imagine that the Japanese do not like to acknowledge their mistake – by a salute in Chinese waters – and no doubt the Japs will appreciate the leniency shown by England towards them. She is strong, and can afford to be magnanimous! and I believe their (Japs) friendship towards England is sincere. The Text of the two verbal notes were published in Amoy & Hong Kong Gazette – according to your suggestion – but of course it was sent quite unofficially & no mention of the source from [which] the information was derived. It is very gay here & endless dinners & Routs &c.

May 1896 be in every respect a Happy & bright one for you.

Ever Yours most truly

Alexr. Buller

12. Buller to Satow (p. 31 of original file)

[ans. Jan. 23]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

Jan. 14. 1896.

My dear Satow

Many thanks for your “Officials” of dec. 21. 23. 31 and I am glad the Thales affair is settled.

I am sorry to say your Official Seal has been broken, & Envelope opened – it was sent down enclosed in an Envelope belonging to P. & O. Co. wh. had also been opened. Mr. Woolley – the Supr P. & O. kindly brought it to me personally – to show me the state he had received it – No doubt they had been tampered with and he sends both Envelopes to his Co at Yokohama for their information. I was warned some 5 months ago that Japanese letters were liable to be tapped, but in this case it is astonishing as I am under the impression it went thro’ P & O office - & actually their covering Envelope had been opened - & clumsily re-gummed. Adml. Makaroff in Emperor Nicholas is still here. What is Russia’s next move?

Yours most truly

Alex. Buller

13. Henderson to Satow (p. 35 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Nagasaki

Feb 15th 96

Dear Sir Ernest

I found "Rainbow" & "Spartan" here on my arrival on the 7th. The "Humber"[?] only came in yesterday. We have been busy clearing[cleaning?] her since & will finish the reloading tomorrow. The ships are all ordered to return to their respective divisions. "Spartan" went off today to Shanghai. I hope to get away tomorrow with "Pique" for Port Hamilton to do my Perp Filing [probably perpetual filing of papers, not possible while at sea] &c. before going to Kobe where I expect to be on 20th or 21st.

"Rainbow" in consequence of the news from Söul re the increase of the Russian guard & the King decamping to the Russian Legation will probably go straight back to Chemulpho in a day or two. Bigge is much better & hopes to be out of the sick list in a few days.

The wife arrived safely on 8th – She came all the way round by Sea, sends her very kind remembrances to you.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Henderson

14. Henderson to Satow (p. 37 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Kobe

Feb 21st 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

I arrived here with "Pique" from Port Hamilton late this afternoon. Do not yet know how long I shall remain but not longer than I can help.

My wife arrived on Wednesday. We are thinking of going up to Kyoto on Monday the 24th -, so I am making inquiries about the passes for the Palaces. I do not know the procedure but if they are sent to you please forward them to await my arrival at the Yami Hotel where we propose to stop.

Bigge came out of the list this morning – though he has not really quite recovered. Affairs at home seem to have been in a most uncomfortable state, but I hope the war clouds

will blow over.

My wife joins me in kind remembrances.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Henderson

15. Henderson to Satow (p. 39 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Kobe

Feb. 22nd 1896

Dear Sir Ernest,

Many apologies for troubling you in my letter yesterday about the passes. I found them at the Consulate when I landed this afternoon. I am sorry to find Enslie is on the sick list. I saw him just now.

Playfair asked me about the Söul guard. I do not know how many men have been landed. While at Nagasaki I got a letter from “Porpoise” dated 9th or 10th stating that the Russians had sent 100 men & 1 Machine gun unit[?]. On 12th or 13th I had a telegram from her saying King had gone to R. Legation, & that he was sending a guard up to Söul.

The “Rainbow” left Nagasaki for Chemulpho on 16th but I do not think he wld. augment the guard, as there was no fear of attack or disturbance. Forsyth of “Rainbow” is S.O. of the Yellow Sea Div[ision], I have nothing to do with it – but I gave him orders to keep the half dozen extra marines he had on board below to the Victor Emmanuel – and I also sent Qr. Meister who was in charge at Söul previously back with him, in case he shd. be wanted.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Henderson

I expect to be here till the beginning of next week – i.e. 9 or 10th.

16. Buller to Satow (p. 41 of original file)

Hong Kong

24 Feb. 1896

My dear Satow,

Yours of 23 Jan. reached me today! & also Hydrogn. Notices.

I am glad that our previous letters had not been tampered with – but Mr Woolley, P & O agent, brought me the letters personally as he was under the impression there had been

some 'hanky panky' played & I entirely agreed with him, however I am glad it is all right.

The pre arrangement of Russia to receive King of Corea in the Russian Consulate points to her undertaking the future Protectorate – and if Japan makes no difficulty ? to the future absorption of that Country. I fully expect difficulties in that quarter.

A Teleg. received today from Lord Spencer, tells me he will arrive here on 10th Mar. I am afraid it will be the end of April before I can reach Japan. Alacrity is undergoing complete refit. H Kong has been on the loose for the last week with the Races, but settling down again to business.

Yours most truly

Alex. Buller

17. Henderson to Satow (p. 43 in original file)

[ans. to Yoko. 4/3/96]

H.M.S. Edgar

Kobe

Mch. 2nd 96

Dear Sir Ernest

I purpose leaving this on Thursday morning, and should arrive at Yokohama on Friday afternoon.

Have heard nothing yet from the Admiral about Lord Spencer.

Am thinking of taking my wife for a few days to the Miyanoshita district soon after my arrival, and any day after next week, will be ready to receive [Navy Minister] Marquis Saigo [Tsugumichi] and any of the Ministry you may like to bring on board or Members of the Admiralty. I should like to include Admiral Viscount Ito [Yuko/Sukeyuki] and am quite ready to have their wives. Can take any number up to a dozen.

My wife sends her remembrances. We had a very good four days at Kyoto.

Very truly yours

W.H. Henderson

18. Henderson to Satow (p. 45 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

At Sea

March 5th. 96

Dear Sir Ernest,

I regret extremely having to worry you on a service matter, but I am doing so unofficially unless you should wish it otherwise and will leave the matter in your hands.

The “Edgar” and “Pique” were 12 days at Kobe – and no official visit was paid to either ship by any member of the Consular staff stationed there. I know Ensle was ill and in bed and the day after my arrival as no one came off I went to the Consulate to see him, and with one exception I paid him a visit every day I was in Kobe.

I expected of course that the Consul being seriously ill & in bed Mr. Playfair would have come off, and on my first visit to Mr. Ensle I was careful to ask him to tell Mr. Playfair my movements so as to give him the opportunity of catching me on board. I arrived at Kobe on 21st. On 24th I went up to Kyoto and returned on 28th, but this of course had nothing to do with the matter, and on my return finding no visit had been made, I waited till the afternoon of the 2nd March & then mentioned the matter to Mr. Ensle – he said Mr. Playfair ought to have gone off & he would see about it.

However, he never came & yesterday before leaving I told him he had not – when Ensle said he could not go because he had no “official status”. You know that I am not the sort of individual who as the expression goes “puts on frills” & I hate making this complaint, but I feel I cannot pass by the fact that two Captain Commanders were at Kobe for 12 days & were utterly ignored by the Consular Staff.⁴

It is the common custom when a senior is even only temporarily unfit for the next in seniority to take his place & I expected & hoped that under the circumstances of the Consul being ill in bed Mr. Playfair should naturally & willingly have come off & paid me & Captain Bigge an official & friendly visit.

It makes a considerable difference to a ship visiting such a place as Kobe if she is so to speak taken in hand in the matter of introduction by the Consular people, it is generally only though them we can in a short while get to know people and be able to offer them a little civility and hospitality which at Kobe I was anxious to do.

I did not even meet Mr. Playfair at all – for he only called privately at my hotel yesterday two or three hours before I sailed, & I was quite unable to return it.

Very truly yours,

W.H. Henderson

⁴ Satow wrote to Ensle about Henderson’s complaint on March 9th. See PRO 30/33 5/8 No.12. Playfair also replied on March 11th, No. 13. (See Volume One of this book.)

19. Henderson to Satow (p. 49 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Yokohama

March 6th 96

Dear Sir Ernest,

It will be all right for the band on the days you want it – I enclose a list of music & propose you should select your own programme – as I am starting off to Miyanoshita on Sunday, it would be better if you would just send the list of the pieces you choose to the Bandmaster – Senr. Nifosi who will then bring them up.

I do not know of anything to prevent our accepting your invitation about the 19th. I had a letter from the Admiral dated 24th Feb. He says Lord Spencer wd. be at H.K. on 10th Mch. & he would ascertain his wishes.

I hope if he goes in “Edgar” you will be able to come with him.

I shall be vy glad to ask Prince Arisugawa, 12 is the number I must limit you to & I would prefer 10 if possible to arrange that number.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Henderson

If you will allow me I will put off a call on you till I come back from Miyanoshita, when I will turn up one day about lunch time – I could get up tomorrow if you wish to see me – Bigge is going off in ten days time.

20. Henderson to Satow (p. 51 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

[Yokohama]

Dear Sir Ernest,

Enclosed is the Band Programme – I am writing to Earl Spencer at Nagasaki to tell him I shall be at Kobe on the evening of the 24th – will leave that place on the evening of the 25th and arrive at Kure about noon on 26th. If it is necessary I could be there at 8 am.

The Japanese authorities would like to know the date at any rate & I think we may be safe in saying 26th unless you hear anything to the contrary from the Earl.

I see although the Admiral’s telegram says 25th the published time tables of the C.P. [Canadian Pacific] give 24th as the date of their steamer’s arrival. If I find the steamer is

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

going to be there on 24th I shall leave this on 20th and we could get to Kure on 25th. Is there any place in the Inland Sea worth taking him to?

I am sorry to say my Staff Surgeon Dr. Hunter died this morning in Hospital from aneurism.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Henderson

21. Buller to Satow (p. 53 in original file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

22 Mar. 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

I am sending you an official request – to be allowed to visit Sasebo & Kure in Alacrity. I shall be at Shanghai by the 20th April so hope you will be able to send me the permission to Shanghai.

Li Hung is to arrive here on the 27th in the French steamer – en route for France England – and Russia.

My intention is to arrive at Tokio about the 7th May. You will find the Spencers most agreeable & take an interest in everything.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

22. Henderson to Satow (p. 55 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Kobe

March 26th 96

Dear Sir Ernest

The “Empress of Japan” only arrived at 10.30 last night. I am leaving at 8 this morning. Lord Spencer only is coming. I shall reach Kure at 8 tomorrow morning. Expect to be back here on evening of 29th. The Admiral at Kure is giving a dinner.

Vy truly yours

W.H. Henderson

23. Henderson to Satow (p. 56 in original file)

H.M.S. Edgar

At Sea

Mch. 29th 96

Dear Sir Ernest

You will be glad to hear we had a most successful trip to Kure – Lady Spencer did not come – Arrived there early Friday – it turned out a pouring wet day – we were shown every kindness & hospitality – and were taken over every inch of their various establishments – winding up with a large dinner in the evening.

Yesterday morning we steamed over early to Yeda or Yeta Island & went all over the Naval School – thence on to Miyajima where the Admiral & a party of officers met us and had provided a magnificent lunch.

Leaving at 5.30 we reached Kobe at 8 this morning. Lord Spencer landed in the forenoon Lady S. having gone on to Kyoto yesterday he was to follow in the afternoon. He talks of visiting Miyanoshita on his way to Tokio. I left before noon & I shall be at Yokohama tomorrow night.

I am sending you a letter asking you (if it is correct) to thank the Japanese Govt. for their kindness & hospitality offered to us. I am sure Lord Spencer enjoyed his trip.

I will endeavour to pay you a visit Tuesday or Wednesday. I have told Lord Spencer about the proposed visit to Edgar and have left it with him to arrange the day with you.

Vy truly yours

W.H. Henderson

The Admiral I believe leaves Hong Kong for the Chinese Coast ports on the 5th April. Yokohama March 30th. I will be up about 12.30 tomorrow.

24. Buller to Satow (p. 59 in original file)

[recd. April 9. Ans. 10.]

Alacrity

Ap[ril]. 1. 1896

Dear Satow

I am much obliged for your interesting letter of 23 Mar - & in reply about Longford I wired to you – 7355 – 1912 by Army & Navy Signal Book – viz. “Request will be complied with.” Surely you possess that Book. I was under impression Navy & Diplomatic

Service communicated by that medium – unless using Cypher N.

Li Hung arrived yesterday but would not land – said he was afraid of the Plague! It was a great disappoint[ment] to the Colony. Governor had prepared lunch for 90 – as he accepted by wire from Shanghai, provided it would not put ship in Quarantine. He spent over an hour with me on board Alacrity, and a more wily old fox with 2 legs I have seldom met with. He wanted to know if Russia took over the protectorate of Corea what Eng would do? I was obliged to refer him to Lord Salisbury! I am leaving here on 7th for Shanghai but call in at Amoy & Foochow. I hear that the latter place in the Kutien neighbourhood where the massacre of the women occurred – is most peaceful & well disposed towards Foreigners. The Natives rejoicing that the “Vegetarian Sect” have been broken up. I hope Consul Mansfield’s exertions will be acknowledged. He did his work with great tact & discretion.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

25. Henderson to Satow (p. 62 in file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Yokohama

Ap 18th

Dear Sir Ernest

Letter book has come back. Admiral arrives at Chemulpho 25th, Nagasaki 30th, Kobe 7th, Yokohama 11th.

We propose going to Nikko Monday.

V[er]y truly yours

W.H. Henderson

26. Henderson to Satow (p. 63 in file)

H.M.S. Edgar

Ap 19th 96

Dear Sir Ernest,

I am sorry to say neither I nor my wife will be able to go to the Garden Party on Thursday. She last night received the news of the death v[er]y suddenly of a brother. We shall go to Nikko all the same tomorrow & be quiet there for a few days.

Humber & Pique have both arrived at Nagasaki – Rainbow is also there. I told you I

think that the Admiral's movements are to arrive at Chemulpho 25th Nagasaki 30th Kobe 7th Yokohama 11th. Our [] went off v[er]y well yesterday I think.

Vy truly yours

W.H. Henderson

27. Buller to Satow (p. 65 in file)

H.M.S. Alacrity

Nagasaki

4 May 1896

My dear Satow

I am in hopes this will reach you before you leave Kobe. The thick weather fogs have delayed me a day or two. My present plans are – Leave Nagasaki 5th May Arrive Kobe 7 [May] and then shall probably go by rail to Miyanoshita and on to Yokohama where I have ordered my rooms at Grand Hotel on the 12th.

Perhaps you may still be at Kobe or Kyotō on my arrival. I shall be so pleased if you happen to be there. Nagasaki is decidedly damp at this season of the year!

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

28. Buller to Satow (p. 67 in file)

[ans. 11./96]

H.M.S. Alacrity

Kobe

8 May 1896

My dear Satow

I was disappointed yesterday on my arrival here – to find by your letter – that we shall not foregather at Kyoto. It is very kind of you inviting Mrs. Buller & my son to the Legation – but I have ordered rooms at Grand Hotel Yoko. and it will suit us better to make that place our Head Qrs. and later on if you will kindly invite us for a day or so we shall be delighted to run up to Tokio & be your guests. There will be no difficulty about a Band for your Entertainment on 23 or 25th. Centurion, Immortalité will be at Yoko. as will Edgar. If you have already asked Edgar for his band so let it be – but you shd. have had Centurion's – with the greatest pleasure.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

You must let me know wh. day you fix 23 or 25 so that I can have t'other day for Entertainment on board Centurion. I shall look forward to a talk with you about Corea in Sasebo.

I intend to be at Yokohama Grand Hotel by Train 12 or 13th.

Yours vy truly

Alex Buller

29. Henderson to Satow (p. 69 in file)

H.M.S. Edgar

May 12th

Dear Sir Ernest,

It will be alright for the Band on 23rd. I found at the Hotel last night that the Admiral had sent a telegram saying he wd. arrive by 4.30 p.m. train tomorrow.

Hope to see you tomorrow or 15th.

I am going to dine with the Uyama's[?] on Friday.

Vy truly yours

W.H. Henderson

30. Buller to Satow (p. 70 in file)

H.M.S. Alacrity

Yokohama Grand Hotel

May 13th 1896

My dear Satow

Just arrived at 'Grand Hotel' and glad to get your letter. I shld have run up for the day tomorrow to see you – but now will wait till I see you at Yoko. on Friday. Mrs. Buller desires me to thank you for your kind invitation wh. we shall be most delighted to accept and can arrange when we meet on Friday. Thanks for letting me know that you have fixed the 23rd for celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday. I will keep [celebrate] it on board Centurion on 25th. I hope you will honor me.

Yours Most truly

Alex Buller

31. Henderson to Satow (p. 72 in file)

H.M.S. Edgar

May 16th

Dear Sir Ernest,

The "Pigmy" arrived last night. I believe but am not certain that the "Immortalité" will be here by the 23rd as well as "Centurion".

Vy truly yours

W.H. Henderson

I have sent to Flag Lieut. about sending the cards up to you as soon as possible. Please do not forget Capt. & Mrs. Ito – who are always so civil.

31. Buller to Satow (p. 73 in file)

H.M.S. Alacrity

Yokohama

19 May 1896

My dear Satow

Herewith your Cigar holder Case. Query, How got it into my pocket?

Also 20 Cards wh. you kindly said you would distribute among the diplomatic Corps or anyone you wish. The Bishops, Menpes and Kirkwood's have been sent by the Flag Lieut.

Greenfield is very pleased at getting his invitation. I am just off to Miyanoshita and will drop you a line on Thursday to let you know out Train on Friday.

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

32. Buller to Satow (p. 75 in file)

Fujiya Hotel

Miyanoshita

20 May 1896

My dear Satow

We shall arrive at Tokio on Friday at 5 p.m. and look forward to the pleasure of being your Guests until Sunday afternoon. I received Marquis Saigo's invitation to dinner on 27th and we have accepted it.

You shall have an official reply about Centurion having ↓d [anchored] at Kodzu as soon

as I get an explanation from Captain Login. The Russians are taking port at Roze Island Chemulpo. Bigge writes me that report says the Korean King has made over a piece of ground to the Russians. Anyhow the Russians are daily landing on Roze Id. – digging a trench round a large piece of land wh. is marked & staked off.

Yours very truly Alex. Buller

33. Buller to Satow (p. 77 in file)

“Draft note could not be improved.”

Grand Hotel

Yokohama

26 May 1896

My dear Satow

The first party of Star Gazer Professor Turner & Capt. Hills arrive at Yoko. on July 6th and will be embarked by Humber here. The second party which includes the “Astronomer Royal” at Awomori about 29 July.

I am unable to say what ship I can send to Awomori – naturally the Humber – but it is possible the first batch will have to reside on board her unless they can find suitable quarters at Kushiro.

One of my officers was travelling through Japan, & stayed a day at Awomori but failed to see any fortifications or any works in hand.

I shall require to communicate at Awomori for Mails &c. Thanks for coming to assist me yesterday.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

34. Draft Note by Ernest Satow (p. 79 in file)

The first portion of the astronomers will reach Yokohama 6th July and will embark there on the storeship “Humber” for Kushiro.

The second portion, in which is included the Astronomer Royal will arrive in Japan about the 27th July and go by train to Awomori, arriving there about the 29th July.

If the accommodation onshore is insufficient, the first party will have to remain on board the “Humber”, and in that case the Admiral will need to send some other ship to Awomori to fetch the Astronomer Royal. He will also require to communicate with Awomori from

time to time for mails and so forth.

E.S.

May 27 [1896]

35. Buller to Satow (p. 80 in file)

Centurion

1 June 1896

My dear Satow

We will leave on Saturday at 3 PM. – if that will suit you. There is sufficient water for Centurion to go to Kure. So it will be more comfortable for us not to move over to Alacrity.

⁵

The other ships I propose to leave at anchor under Kurahasi Id. [Island] while we visit Kure.

I studied the map yesterday with Saigo & Ito when they were here yesterday. By all means get leave to anchor at Mogi [Moji] and will there be any difficulty in getting permission to visit the Coal Mines? The Saigo party I think quite enjoyed their day on board Centurion. The Marchioness would go everywhere - & covered a lot of ground for an Invalid!

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

Unless I hear to the contrary a Boat for you at English Hatoba 2.30 Sat.

36. Buller to Satow (p. 82 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

June. 5. 96

My dear Satow

I can stop Swift – as she will not leave Hakodaté until tomorrow – but her relief will be going from Yokohama about the 15 July for Commander Island. How would that suit? I do not like to let a whole month go without any ship being in that neighbourhood wh. would be the case if detain Swift.

⁵ See Satow's diary for June 6-16, 1896. (Ruxton, 2003, pp. 101-2). See also mention of the visit to Kure and Moji in Satow's letter to Lord Salisbury, PRO 30/33 14/9, June 18, 1896, No. 23. (Ruxton, 2007, p. 39).

Hakodate is 1400 miles to Commander Island ⁶ but I doubt Mr. Hamilton can get a steamer from San Francisco to those outlandish islands.

Please wire me if you think the 15 July would suit?

Yours truly

Alex Buller

37. Buller to Satow (p. 84 in file)

[ans. July 6]

H.M.S. Centurion

Port Hamilton

27 June 1896

My dear Satow

I was very pleased to get your letter on my arrival here on the 25th. Centurion was piled up in Simonosaki [Shimonoseki] straits – but only for 7 hours - & is not much the worse for it – it was rather a blow to my feelings as I rounded the point in Alacrity to see her aground. I am glad to say the Enquiry has exonerated Login, & all officers concerned – so that there will be no Court Martial – thanks be.

It will be most inconvenient if I cannot send to Aomori for Astronomer Royal & I thank you for saying you will spare no effort to get permission. I have written you officially again on the subject. You will have heard from Henderson that I have arranged [H.M.S.] Edgar is to convey Mr. Barrett Hamilton ⁷ to Hakodate – where the Spartan will be waiting to take him to, & back from the Commander Islands.

I shall arrive at Hakodate on the 6th July, & hope to meet Mr. Hamilton before he goes North. Perhaps he might like to see some of the official reports made by the Cruising Captains - & I shall be glad to place them at his disposal – Winslet[?] is a capital fellow and will do all he can to make the trip a pleasant as well as useful one. I am glad there is no more squabbling over the Korean bone for the present! but the day will come. Login, Bradshaw, Pullen desire their kind regards to you - & Paget. We enjoyed our 5 days at Chefoo and I saw a great deal of Beauclerk. He is gone – quite privately – with Sparkes in

⁶ Commander Islands are to the east of Kamchatka Peninsula in the Russian Far East.

⁷ See G..E.H. Barrett-Hamilton to G.A. Lowther, 24 September 1897 (PRO 30/33 5/5). Major General Gerald Edwin Hamilton Barrett-Hamilton (1871-1914) was a natural historian. He died on 17 January 1914 on South Georgia island in the Atlantic while leading a British Government investigation into whale and seal fisheries.

Linnet to Corea. He wanted a change & will probably turn up at Hakodate.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

38. Buller to Satow (p. 88 in file)

[Recd. July 9. Ansd. July 10.]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hakodate

7 July 1896

My dear Satow

Thanks for yours of 24 June. Also for Teleg. to Chifoo which I received at Port Hamilton. The Japanese Naval Dept. may rest assured – if it is their wish that only one ship should ply to Awomori – it shall be attended to – at least only one ship shall be sent at the same time⁸ – but it is impossible at present for me to detail any particular ship, it depends so much on the wants of the Expedition. Mr Barrett Hamilton would have left today in Spartan – but it is blowing a Northerly gale. Professor d'Thompson⁹ meets him from Vancouver at Commander Is'd. and they return at end of Aug[ust] to Vancouver.

I conclude arrangements have been made for one of the Pacific Squad – to do this I shd. like to know the provisional arrangement between Russia & Corea – when details are known. Believe me

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

The Squad Regatta will take place at Hakodate the first week in Aug. Have you not any business in Yezo Island [Hokkaido] at that time? I would send Alacrity to Awomori to fetch you – and we could then go on to Kushiro for eclipse on the 7th?

A.

⁸ On 24 June 1896 Satow thanked Nakada Takanori of the Japanese F.O. for Japan's agreeing to let Admiral Buller send a ship to Aomori during the eclipse. He added that he "should at once communicate to the Admiral, as also the request that only one ship be sent, and that its name should be furnished." (Satow's diary, Ruxton, 2003, p. 105)

⁹ Sir D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson (1860-1948) was a Scottish zoologist. In 1896 and 1897 he went on expeditions to the Bering Straits, representing the British Government in an international enquiry into the fur seal industry. He was Professor of Biology at University College, Dundee from 1884 for 32 years and created a Zoology Museum at Dundee.

39. Buller to Satow (p. 92 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Akishima

20 July 1896

My dear Satow

Many thanks for putting thro' the condolences of the Fleet to the Emperor. I was glad to get your letter of 10th July – but am sorry you do not see your way to running over for the Eclipse. Should you find later on you can do so send me a line to Hakodate. The Astronomers have settled upon a house at Akishima village and I hope will be comfortable. My intention was to have left tomorrow for Walvis Bay but Fog is so dense that until there is a decided change, I shall hold on to my anchor.

The Humber will be at Awamori on Wed 29th to embark the Astronomer Royal. An official letter to you to that effect goes by same mail as this one.

I intend to return to Hakodate end of this month with the Squad. but shall be back again in Alacrity on the 8th in time for the Eclipse.

Yours most sincerely

Alex Buller

40. Buller to Satow (p. 94 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Hakodate

Japan

Aug. 3. 1896

My dear Satow

I was glad to get your letter of 30 July, but regret to hear that [the French Minister Jules] Harmand should have behaved so ungenerously in regard to the Undaunted not taking part in the celebration of the 14 July.¹⁰ Had Captain Hallifax been invited to celebrate the day I am sure he would have been pleased to have done so – but it is unusual when a Vessel of the Nation celebrating the day is not present in port.

I do not understand McNau' [McNaughton?]. By written agreement all my colleagues agreed that no saluting should take place at Shanghai and within 2 months of his telling me that orders to that effect had been issued to his Squad. his ships broke the rule on 4 July –

¹⁰ Bastille Day, the French National Day. The Bastille fortress-prison was stormed on 14 July 1789.

and our ships were requested to do so – but the Captains could not disobey my orders & did not follow motions.

I cannot say how much I regret that you are unable to join me for the Regatta.

I go to Akishi on Thurs. 6th – as soon as (last day) Regatta is over. I want one clear day Sat to see all the preparations at Akishi. Christie¹¹ arrived there on Friday – all well.

Thanks for your kind invitation for Sept. I will write to you when time draws nigh. At present my movements are uncertain after leaving Gulf of Tartary end of Sept.

Hakodate will be Head Qrs. for Telegrams and Letters. The Japs are most unsuccessful Colonists.

Yours most truly

Alex: Buller

Grafton got a dusting in Formosa Chan[nel] & has had to return to H.K. to repair damage – Typhoon was spiteful!

41. Buller to Satow (p. 98 in file)

[Recd. 14.]

H.M.S. Alacrity

Aomori

Japan

12 Aug. 1896

My dear Satow

I am not sure that I thanked you for yours of 30 July. Our trip to Akishi was regardless of Sun – and favored with an overpowering fog. I wired you from Akishi to say the Astronrs. were leaving in Pique for Yoko. It was a sad disapp[ointmen]t. to come so far & see so little. Alacrity was at Sea. Fog so dense below that it would have been absurd to have attempted the entrance of harbour with reefs on either side of entrance – fortunately for us it was clear enough overhead to see “first contact and total eclipse” & then we were left with an uncanny light & heavy fog. People forget that when men go to war, they cannot be (at all events are not) lions one minute, and lambs the next – better for Japan if she had never accepted Formosa. There are no works of any kind going on here. Streets are broad, & clean, & decidedly a prosperous place. The “Chief Magistrate” has just been here[?], and I have been making him liquor. Hakodate will be my address for the next 6 weeks.

¹¹ William Christie (1845-1921), Astronomer Royal at Greenwich, 1881-1910.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

42. Buller to Satow (p. 100 in file)

[ans. 3/9/96]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hakodate

Aug. 24. 96

My dear Satow

I am much obliged for yours. It will simplify matters to write thro' Consul at Yoko. about docking our Ships & save you a lot of unnecessary trouble.

The Squad[ron] is now weighing for Oturani [Otaru?] & then on to Gulf of Tartary¹² and Korea. Bonar very delighted to get your permission to go with me to Sapporo. There is a new Governor and he ought to be interviewed. They have sent an excellent Governor to this place. He can't speak English but is most friendly. He dined last night on board, & I think quite "enjoyed of hisself." He joined us in our Paper Chases & has already commenced to put the streets in order, repaved &c. They were sadly neglected.

The German Squad arr[ive]d yesterday. The 10 Survivors are unable to give any explanation as to cause of disaster of *Iltis*¹³ as they were below in their Ham[moc]ks. The Chinese stripped the bodies & stole everything on the unfortunate corpses. The Captain's body was found naked & all his things[?] gone. Tirpitz¹⁴ can hardly speak about it.

Any letters or Teleg. will be sent on to me from Hakodate until the 10 Sep. and then "Nagasaki" where Alacrity will be doing Postman. [Henry C.] Bigge [commander of *Pique*] was very pleased at your kindness in going to see him¹⁵ - he is a good fellow - an old shipmate - and I am sorry he is hors de combat.

I am sorry Formosa is such a bête noir [bugbear] - better for Japan had she never accepted the so-called Beautiful Island.

Hoping you are well.

Ever yours most truly

¹² The narrow Tartar Strait between Sakhalin island and mainland Asia.

¹³ The German gunboat *Iltis* sank in a storm of China on 24 July 1896. *Iltis* is German for Polecat.

¹⁴ Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz (1849-1930) was at the time in command of the German East Asia Squadron. Fluent in English, he sent his two daughters to Cheltenham Ladies' College.

¹⁵ Satow visited Bigge in hospital on 18 August 1896. (Satow's diary)

Alex: Buller

43. Buller to Satow (p. 103 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Off Vladimir Bay

Sep. 16 1896

[ans. Sept. 22]

My dear Satow

Thanks for your 3 Sep. and I hope my official reply about the omission to name the 3 extra ships calling at Otaru [Oteru?] will be satisfactory. I am sorry you have been bothered over such an unimportant matter. Most sincerely do I hope the radical party will not land Japan in a hole. As long as the country had a sensible man at the head of their Govern[men]t there was hope for them. I quite agree with you that the 'Bear' [Russia] would not mind a row now with Japan – before she has time to recover from her late war with China.

I intend to be at Nagasaki about end of month. Now going to Korniloff and Port Lazareff [near Wonsan].

Believe me

Yours very truly

Alex: Buller

I eg. w. Letters to Nagasaki.

44. Buller to Satow (p. 105 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Korniloff

Sept. 25. 96

[Recd. Oct. 1. Ansd. 3 Oct.]

My dear Satow

I leave here today for Port Lazareff – and Nagasaki – and intend to arrive at latter place about 3 or 4th of Oct.

Are you likely to be at Kobe early in Oct.? I could meet you. It is very sad about Capt. Lang. His Galley capsized coming out of the River at Grossewitch Bay Fish River in Russian Tartary.

3 of his Boat's crew were also drowned. The ship was by herself - & it was a sad blow when she rejoined the Squad & made the signal to announce the sad intelligence.

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

45. Buller to Satow (p. 107 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Nagasaki

11 Oct. 1896

[Recd. 17]

My dear Satow

I arrived here yesterday – and leave on the 15th for Kobe & Yoko. I was in hopes that I should have had a line from you on my arrival – to say you had business at Kobe - & would meet me there & return to Yoko. in Alacrity! The wish is father to the thought. It would have been very pleasant for me if you could have managed it. I am not sure whether I shall come by the outside passage now & not go to Kobe unless I hear from you.

The Bilge keel is all right & damage to bottom very slight. Cent[urion] will not dock at H. Kong until the usual time at Xmas.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

46. Buller to Satow (p. 109 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Kobe

18 Oct. 96

My dear Satow

I was glad to get your letter of Sept. 3 – wh[ich]. you sent to Kobe – It only took 12 days to reach me! Instar is ferreting out the delay. No doubt after it was reposted at Kobe – it was sent by error of the P.O. back to Yoko. I hope to be at Yokohama about 23rd and shall stay till 29th. It is terribly wet – quite spoilt the last day's run thro' Inland Sea. Looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you again.

Believe me

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

47. Buller to Satow (p. 111 in file)

H.M.S. Alacrity

Shanghai

4 Nov. 1896

[ans. 13 Nov. 1896]

My dear Satow

My truant mails met me in Van Dieman Straits.¹⁶ Bigge writes that “I was unable to communicate with Tamsui¹⁷ sea too heavy. The Consul tried to get out, but was compelled to put back. There was every appearance of a typhoon & I only got away 2 Hours before we were in it – luckily on the outside edge - & had to lay to for 6 hours – blowing very hard. Pique behaved splendidly – but was wet. I knew it was no use to attempt Amping – so gave it up & came on straight to H. Kong.”

He writes in very low spirits & says if he gets another attack of stone in the kidneys – vis “Red Sea” – he will slip out of the slings. I am very sorry for him poor fellow. We had a breezy passage & some of my messmates were found wanting – at their meals. Arrived here today in time for the 3rd day’s Racing. Some excellent ponies ran & there was great excitement.

Sir Tom. Robinson is here, Sir Nicholas & Lady Hannen looking very fit. I hope you are none the worse for all the Royal festivities.¹⁸

Yours most sincerely

Alex: Buller

48. Rear Admiral Charles L. Oxley to Satow (p. 113 in file)

H.M.S. Grafton

20th November

Dear Sir Ernest

Very many thanks for both your letters which I received today, and also for the enclosures which I have read and am now returning to you. I certainly think after taking all

¹⁶ Van Dieman Straits are between the most southern part of Kyushu and Tanegashima island.

¹⁷ Tamsui is a seaside district of New Taipei city in northern Taiwan.

¹⁸ This may refer to the Japanese Emperor’s visit to the Yokohama Races. (Satow’s diary, 29 October 1896)

the circumstances of the case fully into consideration, that our men had better pay half the damage as from the Consul's report to you the 'Centurions' appear to have been the aggressors in the first place, and should the Captain of the 'Peacock' refer the case to me, I shall tell him to settle it at once. I had the American Minister on board to lunch today, and on leaving gave him the usual salute. After he had left the Chinese Minister called, and was saluted in due course.

Thanking you for the cards you have sent I remain

Yrs sincerely

C.L. Oxley

49. Buller to Satow (p. 115 in file)

[Recd. 4.12.96]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

25 Nov. 1896

My dear Satow

Yours of 13 Novr. reached me yesterday thro' H. Kong Bank. The news of the rebellion in the Phillipines is far from satisfactory. The Rebels have surrounded the neighbourhood of Cavite¹⁹ – and Spanish troops are not getting any forrarder! The Troops that are sent from Europe are raw & undisciplined – scarcely understanding how to handle their Rifles.

Rawson Walker²⁰ does not anticipate any danger in Manilla but Daphne has been allowed to enter the River, & lie alongside wharf – so Consul has a bolt hole – if it arrives at a stage of 'sauve qui peut'.

The Rebels have not cut off the water wh. supplies Manilla – nor cut the Teleg. wires! Consul's daughter left here last week to join him at Manilla – so he can't anticipate danger. I understand the Rebels quite expected Japan would have come to their assistance.

The Carew affair seems very nasty!

I leave tomorrow for Singapore – & shall be back here early in Jan.

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

¹⁹ Cavite province is on Manila Bay just south of Metro Manila.

²⁰ Edward Henry Rawson-Walker was the British consul in Manila. See Ruel V. Pagunsan, 'British Consular Reports on Filipino Anti-Colonial Struggles and Philippine-British Relations, 1896-1902' in *Philippine Social Sciences Review*, Vol. 62, No. 1, January-June 2010, pp. 129-156.

50. Buller to Satow (p. 117 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

January 24. 1897

My dear Satow

Many thanks for yours of 2 Jan. & for all your kind wishes to us for the New Year – wh. my wife & I fully reciprocate. I am so glad to hear that you intend to take a run home in the Autumn – a holiday is good for everyone, especially hardworked Ministers. I shall be up in Japan for Queen's Birthday & you must let me know what day will suit your arrangements for me to have my Party on board Centurion. Of course our Band is at your disposal.

My wife thanks you for kindly including her in your invitation to Nikko, & Chiuzenji. She will quite enjoy it but at present she has not decided whether she will return in P. & O. or via America.

I hope the rebellion in Phillipines is drawing to a close. The proclamation granting free pardon to all rebels who have not been the chief ringleaders –or instigators in the rebellion – has already borne fruit and 4000 Natives have come in to Manilla & laid down their arms. This week we shall have German, Russian and American Admirals in this Port – all together. I wish they could divide their attentions. It involves so many official dinners as they are so painfully stiff & sticky – no geniality if another nationality is present. Sartorius has arrived and gone on to Canton. The Diners[?] Belle is well to the fore & going strong at the Balls. My wife joins me in best of Good wishes to you & Believe me

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

My wife has her brother Tritton²¹ with her. She was fortunate in getting such a good companion & they had a capital passage from England.

51. Buller to Satow (p. 121 in file)

[ansd. 1 April]

H.M.S. Alacrity

Hong Kong

Feb. 28. 97

²¹ Buller married Emily Mary Tritton in 1870. (Obituary, *The Times*, 5 October 1903).

My dear Satow

I am sorry to learn that we shall not meet before you leave for England. Thanks for yours of Feb. 5 – telling me your movements. My Congrats to you on your coming Trip & may it be a very pleasant one.²² You deserve a holiday after so many years of hard work – out of the old Country.

The Papers certainly made a lot out of the Gutschmid's affair. It was an unfortunate affair – specially for a man in his position.²³ We will look out for the d'Anethans when they pass through.

Hong Kong has not been favoured with good weather. Very changeable – damp & dull. Peak only visible once in ten days!

My last news from Manilla was the capture of Silang [in Cavite province] by Royal troops – and daily I expect to hear of the fall of Imus [capital of the province of Cavite]. The rebels are surrounded by Royal troops & escape to the mountains cut off – but alas – Spaniards move so slowly – that it is impossible to say when the final attack will be made. It is the old story with the Spaniards – “Mañana.” [Tomorrow]

Lady Buller desires her kind remem[brance]s to you – she has not decided whether she returns by P. & O. or C.P.R.

Believe me

Yours most truly

Alex Buller

52. Buller to Satow (p. 125 in file)

[Recd. 29/3/97. Ansd. 1/4]

Hong Kong

20.3.97

My dear Satow

This is to bid you Farewell – before your departure for England - & may you have a good

²² Satow left Japan on May 7th for leave in England, arriving on June 4th. He attended Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee on June 22nd. He left England on October 20th, returning to Japan on November 21st. (Satow's diary)

²³ On 30 December 1896 the German Minister Freiherr von Gutschmid struck one of two students with his horsewhip when going up a slope in his carriage in Koji-machi, Tokyo and the students were coming down. The students complained to the Koji-machi police station as the Foreign Office was not open. Later some newspapers attacked the F.O. for not dealing with the matter. (Nagaoka, *A-nesuto Satō Kōshi Nikki*, Vol. 1, p. 214)

Time in the old Country. Lady Buller & I are so sorry we shall not arrive in Japan in time to see you. I propose to leave H.K. about middle of April – visit Shanghai & Yangste and do not anticipate reaching Yokohama before first week in May. The Baron & Baroness d’Anethan only stayed here 24 hours.²⁴ They dined with us on board *Alacrity* & seemed in capital Colour. I never knew him so well. Sir Lo Feng-lu Chinese Minister accredited to London was on board same Steamer. We paid him all honours and I had a long chat with him. It was not the first time we had met. D’Anethan’s Farewell dinner at Tokio was very fresh in his memory! He was most delighted at the compliment. [Sir Claude] Macdonald is gone over to Seoul in *Narcissus*. I am afraid he will be dreadfully disappointed at the limited accommodation. He wants to take Lady Macdonald & Staff. Capt. Forsyth, I feel sure, will do all in his power, but Men of War of the present day have no spare cabins & the W.C.s are all outside the Cabins – our Upper Deck – not agreeable for Lady Passengers!

Do you remember Jock Baird of *Juno* – now Admiral Sir Jn. Baird.²⁵ He wrote two mails ago asking me to write to you about some friend of his that is settled in Tokio – for the life of me, I cannot find his letter - & therefore can’t tell you who the Man is!

West River is to be opened on the 4 June. I can hardly credit it after so many years of talkee-talkee.

I envy you being in [London] Town for the Diamond Jubilee.

With our best remembrances.

Ever yours most sincerely

Alex Buller

53. Rear Admiral Charles C. P. Fitzgerald to Satow (undated, p. 129 in file)

[H.M.S.] *Barfleur*

My dear Sir Ernest

Thanks for your’s about C.H. [C.W.?] Russell: what you say is quite enough to settle his chance, without being a Russian spy.²⁶

I have just returned from a day’s snipe hunting. I did not get a shot!

²⁴ Baron Albert d’Anethan was the Belgian Minister in Japan, 1894-1910. Baroness Eleonora Mary d’Anethan was a sister of the novelist Sir Henry Rider Haggard.

²⁵ Admiral Sir John Kennedy Erskine Baird (1832-1908). From 1870 to 1873 he commanded *Juno* on the China station. He retired on 16 September 1897. (See Wikipedia entry).

²⁶ See Bonar to Satow, PRO 30/33 6/3, No. 57, 21 April 1899. Bonar writes that a man named C.W. Russell who is sending tenders for supply of the fleet at Hakodate “is an undesirable man for the Fleet.” (Volume Two of this book, p. 235)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

Yrs very truly

[Rear Admiral] C.C.P. Fitzgerald

Saturday

54. Charles E. Kingsmill to Satow (p. 130 in file)

H.M.S. "Archer"

Manila

Mar. 27th [1897?]

We left Yokohama 2nd inst. with the orders of S.N.O. [Senior Naval Officer] to return from Nagasaki, but a move of other ships made it necessary for C. in C. [Commander in Chief] to have us South. I am sorry I did not go up to say goodbye but I thought we were certain to return as Stores were on way north for us. We arrived here Wednesday. "Grafton" left on our arrival to coal H.K. & work North. It is already getting warm here, 88° in the shade. At present we are in Quarantine, and can hear nothing of what is going on. The troops & ships had an engagement with the Rebs. on Thursday, we could only see dense clouds of smoke & ships firing – in the evening Spanish ships dressed with flags so I suppose they gained a victory. Yesterday "Daphne" (in river) signalled out that "There was a yarn about that "Imus" the rebel stronghold had fallen." – if so there should soon be an end to their rebellion.

I hope we may get to Japan again but after our long spell there can hardly expect it.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

C.E. Kingsmill

55. Buller to Satow (p. 132 in file)

H.M.S. Alacrity en route to Shanghai

Ap. 25. 1897.

My dear Satow

I am much obliged for yours of Ap. 1. Truly there has been 'Much ado about nothing' – and to close the correspondence the H. 20 has been sent to Longford – but I could not in the face of the evidence borne out by Forster's Teleg. to you – Nov 13 "I think French entirely to blame" – order Peacock to pay the money.

Oxley never informed me that in conference with you, that it was decided that our men

should divide the cost of damages equally with the French – or the matter would have been brought to a conclusion long ago – altho' I do not consider it is quite a just decision.

It is quite possible I may reach Yoko[hama]. in time to say Good bye to you on board the C.P.R. May you have a good time in England. Sir Claude Macdonald arrived at H.K. before my departure. He has done good work in getting West River opened. French are very sore over it – as it will cut up their trade. Lady Buller desires her kind remem.

Ever yours truly

Alex Buller

56. Buller to Satow (p. 134 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

6 Dec. 1897 [Recd 16/12. Ansd. 20/12]

My dear Satow

A line by Baron d'Anethan to welcome you back to the Far East. French St[eamer] is behind time so they are only here for the day. I am so sorry that there is little prospect of my seeing you before my departure for England. Edward Seymour – a capital man – I am sure you will like him – is due here on 9 Feb. and I shall leave by the next Homeward bound P. & O. My wife was so pleased to see you at Plympton²⁷ & I hear you approved of the Grandchildren.

If the political situation caused any anxiety, I should come North at once, but Germany's demands do not include permanent occupation of Kiau Chao. The fact is Germany had set her heart upon San-tu in the Sam-sha inlet – 30 miles north of Foochow and they were horribly disgusted when China refused it on the pretext that it was required for their own Dockyard. Germany had surveyed the island & Inlet – I was there about a fortnight ago & consider they have selected a “real nice place” – but it would be detrimental [for] China to have a Foreigner so close to their Ports on Jhin[?] River – wh. could be easily reached by land from Sam-sha!

I conclude the first row will commence with Russia & Japan – over the Korean bone? Of course as you are just from England you must know what Lord Salisbury's policy is regarding the Far East – but Curzon's statement in the House, that England did not intend to interfere about Corea, provided Russia did not fortify a Port, sounded to my mind

²⁷ Satow called on Lady Buller at Plympton on 21 August 1897. (Satow's diary)

somewhat like throwing down the Gauntlet.

My trip to Pekin Ming Tombs, Great Wall &c. was very delightful. Sir Claude & Lady Macdonald were to have returned in Alacrity with me to Shanghai - & done the Yangste River – but alas at the last moment he was overwhelmed with business & could not leave Pekin, a great disappointment to me. I visited Amping last week. Griffiths was very well but Japanese don't appear to make much headway.

Hoping you are well, & thoroughly enjoyed your new home.

Believe me,

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

57. Buller to Satow (p. 138 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Port Hamilton

26 Dec. 1897

[Recd. 30 Dec.]

My dear Satow

It is very good of you sending me your “Confid.” of 14th Decr. For the safety of China she had better make over Chusan ²⁸, surrounding Islands at entrance of Yangste River – as well as Kowloon District to “England” as it will effectually prevent any other Power attempting to occupy any Island or place in those neighbourhoods. The Germans have no intention of evacuating Kyau-chau Bay. ²⁹ They are building an Iron Pier, Huts, Store Houses, made a Contract for 20,000 Tons of Coal to be delivered at Kyau-Chau and have taken over the Customs! Poor China! Where will the money come from? – To redeem Wei-hai-wei and pay off the expenses of the occupation of Kyau-chau?

The Russian grip on Corea is too strong for Coreans to attempt to throw off the Russian yoke! If the Japanese have such a hope, I feel sure they will be bitterly disappointed.

If I hear any news at Chemulpo I will let you know. McLeavy Brown only remains as Head of Customs (but is kicked out of being Chief Financier) to soothe the British feelings but his days are numbered - & they shunt him as soon as they can do so decently! I am

²⁸ Now the Zhousan archipelago. It lies across the mouth of the Hangzhou Bay.

²⁹ Jiaozhou Bay (romanized as Kiaochow, Kiauchau, or Kiao-Chau in English, and Kiautschou in German) is a sea gulf in Qingdao prefecture, Shandong (Shantung) province. It was a German colonial concession from 1898 to 1914.

persuaded before long Russia will have all Liao-tung [peninsula] & Corea under her Protectorate and Germany will occupy all the Province of Shantung! Good strong positions.

I hope to be at Nagasaki before long – at all events. Letters addressed there will reach me.

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

58. Buller to Satow (p. 141 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Private

Chemulpo

4 January 1898

My dear Satow

In reply to your teleg. asking for particulars about the situation ! I am as much in the dark as you are – with regard to Lord Salisbury's programme in the Far East. There is no doubt that Russia has a firm grip upon Corea – and the Russian Minister Speyer at Seoul was and is bossing everything – however it is now decided that McLeavy Brown is to remain as Chief Commissioner of Customs – but Alexeieff is to be Chief Financier in Corea.

You will have heard several reports that Port Arthur is in the occupation of the Russians. This is not the case – The Russian ships are there – 2 in No. – and we have Immortalité & Iphigenia – but the Chinese still retain possession & I do not know that Russia intends to grab the place! Lord Salisbury is evidently thinking of annexing some Port near Gulf of Pechili³⁰ but position is not determined. What is Japan doing? She is very quiet over the matter, but must be very irate at Russia in Corea.

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

59. Buller to Satow (p. 143 in file)

[Ansd. 28/1/98]

H.M.S. Centurion

Nagasaki

18 Jan 98

³⁰ Now called the Bohai Sea, the inner sea inlet with Port Arthur and Wei-hai-wei at its mouth.

My dear Satow

Your letter by Noel Salmon reached me at Chemulpo – I am now on my way to Chusan – with 4 ships – leaving Admiral Fitzgerald & 7 [6?] ships at Chemulpo – 1 at Port Arthur wh. still is occupied by the Chinese notwithstanding the persistent statement in the Papers that the Russians have taken possession of that Port.

Many thanks for your teleg. about Japanese Squad – Why is Lord Salisbury interested about them? Can it be possible that an alliance is contemplated? Our strength lies in our independence - & being unfettered by other nations.

For the preservation of China the sooner she makes over Chusan & its surrounding Islands to England the better.

I looked in at Kyau-chao – en route here and do not envy the Germans their newly acquired territory. The day will come when they will regret this gross piece of vandalism.

Shanghai is my address. I shall keep up daily communication from Chusan.

Yours very truly

Alex Buller

60. Buller to Satow (p. 145 in file)

Shanghai

8 Feb. 1898

My dear Satow

Thanks for yours of Jan 28. I have secured all the Welsh Coal between this place Yoko. & Singapore but I suppose it will all end in smoke. England is too much inclined to demonstrate! My only hope is that Lord Salisbury will enter into no alliance with any other nation – keeping perfectly free to act – In the last six months, I have been persuaded that the French intend to annex Hainan Pakhoi &c. – and eventually tap[?] the West River with their railway. The French Captains & Admirals when I met them at Hong [Kong] in Nov told me so clumsily such different versions of their future proceedings that I felt sure Hainan was secretly their destination.

Good bye. I cannot thank you sufficiently for all the valuable information you have given me during our time together in the East. Lowther has not arrived here. I meet Sir Edward Seymour at Chusan on the 12th and shall leave H. Kong on the 19th Feb. in P. & O. Every success to you

Yours most sincerely

Alex: Buller

61. Buller to Satow (p. 147 in file)

Chusan

12 Feb. 1898

My dear Satow

I am sending you some corresp. on French proposed Railway thro' Annan & Tonquin. Probably you have already had it. The French are wild over the opening of the W. River. & are determined to outwit England – if she can?

I am turning over to Alacrity and am off for Hong Kong to catch P. & O. – of the 19 Feb.

Au revoir in England – Many thanks for your hospitality and the great assistance you have always given me concerning affairs in the East.

Yours Most Sincerely

Alex Buller

You will find Seymour a charming man & very able.

62. Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour³¹ to Satow (p. 149 in file)

[ans. 23/2/]

H.M.S. Centurion

Chusan

13.2.98

Dear Sir Ernest

Having yesterday relieved Sir A. Buller here, in the command of the China Squadron I write to introduce myself to you, as I am of course anxious to be in communication with you about affairs in general. I shall probably remain here for a week or two & then if I can go to Nagasaki; it is my hope to get to Yokohama & it's [sic.] neighbourhood this Spring, & have the pleasure of making your acquaintance.

No plans can be definitely formed of course, & any day may bring news altering the situation. Believe me

³¹ Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour (1840-1929) succeeded Buller as Commander-in-Chief, China Station in December 1897. He assumed command on 18 February 1898. His flagship was H.M.S. Centurion. During the Boxer Rebellion in June 1900 he attempted to relieve the legations at Peking but his 2,000 man force was forced back to Tianjin. From 1898 to 1899 he was the military commissioner at Weihaiwei.

Yours truly
E.H. Seymour

63. Seymour to Satow (p. 151 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

29.3.98

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your letter of 17th inst.³²

I am sorry my telegram gave you & Mr. Paget so much trouble, & I can see how it occurred.

I am leaving on 31st for Cheefou [Chefoo now Yantai] to assemble the Fleet there in consequence of a telegram from the Admiralty. So will you consider that my headquarters at present.

When I am able I hope to come & make your acquaintance.

I feel sure the French are contemplating some action in Hainan I[slan]d or just North of it; but their actually moving seems put off till an excuse is afforded them. I suppose as a Nation they feel jealous of Russian & German action in the North, & probably the French Government long to show they are not neglecting National interests & Glory!

It is my intention to arrive at Yokohama before the end of May; but in view of my last orders all is uncertain.

I feel anxious to know what line the Japanese mean to take with reference to the Russians. Some tell us that Russia has "squared" Japan; if so the former are clever & the latter I think taken in.

Believe me
Your's truly
E.H. Seymour

64. Seymour to Satow (p. 153 in file)

[Recd. 14.4.98. Satow mentions Seymour's letter in his diary for that day.]

H.M.S. Centurion

³² See Satow's letters to Seymour in PRO 30/33 14/10, Nos. 12, 13, 18, 25, 38, 46, 53, 67. (*The Semi-Official Letters of British Envoy Sir Ernest Satow from Japan and China*, Ruxton, ed. 2007).

Chifu

7.4.98

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your telegram of 6th recd. yesterday, when I arrived here, where nearly all our squadron are now assembled. I will not write much as you tell me you distrust the post. I am glad to hear what you say of the view taken about our Government's last decision about a certain place on this coast. [Weihaiwei]

It's [sic.] value to us actually is not by me for various reasons highly appraised but those who order must have the fullest grounds on which to decide, & so should know best. Our news all points to the fact of the Russians settling in at Port Arthur; our naval strength is no doubt in all inferior to theirs. My movements must yet be quite uncertain.

I only can hope to see you this spring & I am

Your's truly

E.H. Seymour

65. Seymour to Satow (p. 155 in file)³³

[Recd. 2 May]

Chifu

21.4.98

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your two letters of March 28th & April 1st.³⁴ I quite understand about the telegram cyphers & the paraphrases, but you could not make out our word address written add re SS – & we only sent the telegram as we did to tell you what it was & by another route, not the name [?] the telegram actually went by.

I do not know what the officers in the Fleet may have thought about Japan; but am glad to know what you say, as I have no wish at all to see us on bad terms with that country, quite the reverse.

I have just been to Pekin by special orders, to see Sir C. M. [Claude MacDonald] and I am anxious as soon as I can to make your acquaintance, which is on all accounts to be

³³ See PRO 30/33 14/10 No. 18 for Satow's reply dated 3 May 1898.

³⁴ PRO 30/33 14/10 No. 12 (part only) and No. 13. In the latter dated April 1st Satow wrote: "I have heard in a roundabout way thro' Paget, who has just returned fr. Nagasaki, & Longford our consul there, that an idea seems to prevail among the officers of the squadron that relations are unsatisfactory betw. G.B. and Japan & that they think the ships that are coming out are intended to be used agst. the Japse. in case of need. I do not think, as far as I know fr. home, that there is any ground for such an idea..."

desired. At present I must probably stay here & hereabouts; it is a healthy place for the Men, & good for discipline, so I see advantages in it.

Believe me,

Your's truly

E.H. Seymour

66. Seymour to Satow (p. 157 in file)

[Ans. 30/5]³⁵

H.M.S. Centurion

Chifu

14.5.98

Dear Sir Ernest,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd inst. come today.

As you suppose I am tied to these parts at present; but expect when Wei-hai-wei has been taken over to be able to send the ships in turn to Japan for leave, & I should hope to run over & see you during the early summer.

A Japanese officer tells me they are publishing in Japan a new chart of Wei-hai-wei. I should like if so to have it & have therefore "wired" to you to ask if it is out, if you could kindly get me a copy.

As yet I have no details at all concerning our occupation of W.H.W. & so I can say nothing as to what barracks we shall want, & I agree with you that the Japanese Govt. cannot do better than to raise the question in London.

I am sorry to hear what you say about the close rapprochement between your Russian colleague [Rosen] & the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs [Nishi]. The Russians seem to know how to work in with all the 3 Nations out here.

The desire for a port in Fuhkien could only mean just that; because to say it was to control[?] all intercourse with Formosa that[?] they objected to wd. be a reason insufficient to make a demand, & not valid as to their power simply because they had such a port to "Coast guard" the whole region. They have asked for & got Formosa & have full rights there to guard it's coasts.

Unhappy China, it is impossible not to pity her; though of course it is her own fault that she is in the present helpless condition.

³⁵ See PRO 30/33 14/10 No. 25 for Satow's reply.

As regards Russia & Corea, I suppose Russia pretended to be angry with M. Speyer to please the Coreans; just now R's hands are full with Manchuria, Pt Arthur, & [?] she does not want Corea, nor will for many years probably, so she can afford to do what she has done to please Japan. I will say no more now on paper about Russia.

Thank you for the news of Japanese [Cuniyan?] movements. I suppose the Philippine Ids. will be under the U. States protection for a time; but do not expect to see the States naturally acquire them.

I certainly hope to have the pleasure of making your acquaintance before the middle of the summer, & I am,

Yours sincerely

E.H. Seymour

67. Seymour to Satow (p. 159 in file)

[Recd. 30/6]

Private

H.M.S. Centurion

Wei-hai-wei

20.6.98

Dear Sir Ernest,

Thank you for your letter of May 30th. The care of this place & many new questions concerning it prevent my getting away yet; but I hope to visit you before the summer is over. I am glad to hear the Japanese are not so foolish as to be taken in by Russia, how anyone can believe a word they say, or be deceived except by their telling the exact truth I can not understand; remember what lately happened. Russia intends to absorb Korea if she can & when she can; but just now has other work in hand & wants to quiet Japan meanwhile. Every year Russia gets stronger in all ways. Possibly Japan may too; but as to population unless she expands her territory it will be difficult I fancy.

Prince Henry [of Prussia] will no doubt visit you & you will all like him.³⁶ He has a very pleasant manner in all ways. This place could be made useful to us, at this season it is pleasant, & all the year healthy, except that in winter it is too cold.

Thank you for the plan [of Wei-hai-wei]; it is in fact our chart. We will be surveying the

³⁶ See Satow to Lord Salisbury, PRO 30/33 14/11, No. 6, July 6, 1899. He begins: "Prince Henry's official visit has taken place, & everything has passed off very satisfactorily."

place.

Believe me

Your's sincerely

E.H. Seymour

68. Seymour to Satow (p. 161 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Wei-hai-wei

13.7.98

Dear Sir Ernest

It is my intention to leave here about 22nd for a cruize [cruise] & to arrive at Yokohama about 2nd or 3rd of August to spend some days there; when I hope to have the pleasure of making your acquaintance.

I of course do not wish for more ceremonies than are necessary. I must however leave you to consider about them; I would like to do what must be done as soon as possible after my arrival, so as to have if I can a few days left free during which I could go away to see something of the country.

If you think an audience of the Emperor necessary, will you let me know as a matter of precedent for me what Admiral Buller did about this, & what dress he wore.

It is very good of you to ask me to stay at the Legation, but I will not take up too much of your time.

I will send you a Telegram about my arrival again before I come, but to arrive on 2nd or 3rd or possibly 4th August is my present intention.

In making arrangements for what visits I must pay &c., you will no doubt be guided by what my predecessors did.

Believe me

Your's sincerely

E.H. Seymour

69. Rear Admiral C.C.P. Fitzgerald to Satow (p. 163 in file)

Myianoshita [Miyanoishita] July 17th/98 [written on H.M.S. Grafton notepaper]

My dear Sir Ernest

If I had only known (how often we have to make that remark) that the Grafton was to be

so long in dock I should have taken a trip to Kuszenji (Is that how you spell it?) ³⁷ and seen some more of the beauties of Japan. But the delay in getting the ship out of the dock has been a day to day business, so that I have never felt it safe to go any distance away and have therefore contented myself with getting a little fresh air at this fashionable health resort, and enjoying the luxuries of a capital hotel.

I have sent on the Barfleur and Undaunted, and shall be off in Grafton directly I can get her out of dock and the coal in, as I know Sir E. Seymour wants me back at Wei hai wei, so as to send the other ships for a cruize, & I expect he will come round this way himself. The delay with Grafton has not been with the rudder but with a trumpery [i.e. trivial] little inlet pipe which they appear to have made a bad job of, and have had to take it out and do it all over again ; but we cannot grumble, for such things have happened in our own dockyards.

If you meet Madame O’Gorman in your part of the country pray give her my kind regards, and tell her that I should have gone up to Kuszenji but that there was no moon. This is a little inconsistent with my first statement on the subject, but after all that is a mere detail of diplomacy, and she need not know about the first.

Did the Mikado “tremble” in the presence of the Russian Grand Duke?

Very truly your’s

C.C. P. Fitzgerald

70. Fitzgerald to Satow (p. 165 in file)

H.M.S. Grafton

Kobe. noon. July 23rd/98

My dear Sir Ernest

I do not know if Sir Ed[ward] Seymour has written to you, but in case he has not it may interest you to know that he expects to be at Yokohama (I presume in the Centurion) about the 5th Prox.

I left Yokohama at noon yesterday and expect to meet Sir Edward at Nagasaki on Monday or Tuesday.

The Japs were very good about the docking charges, they are not going to charge us anything for the extra days we were in dock as it was owing to some bad workmanship that the delay occurred; but it is honest of them to admit it and to act accordingly.

³⁷ Lake Chuzenji at Nikko.

I hope to sail at daylight tomorrow for Nagasaki and Wei hai wei; we only came in here to coal the Hart.³⁸

Very truly your's

C.C.P. Fitzgerald

I got your's of the 20th.

71. Satow to Seymour (p. 167 in file)

Copy

28 July 1898

Dear Sir Edward,

Many thanks for your letter of the 13th & subsequent teleg informing me of your intended movements. I shall look for you here on the 5th August. If you can get to Yokohama early enough that day, how would it suit you to come up to Tokio the same afternoon with Lt. Powlett and Mr. Alton.³⁹ The next morning we could get thro' your calls on the Minr. of Marine & the Pres[iden]t, & after an early lunch take the one o'clock train to Nikko. We wld. pass the night there, & next day go up to my cottage on Chiuzenji Lake. I can put you up with one of your staff and Madam O'Gorman has offered to take in another. The distance across the lake from one house to the other is only 20 min. by boat. This would enable you to see some part of the best scenery in this part of Japan. I must return to Tokio on the 13th for the incoming Canadian mail, but if you liked to stay a day or two longer at the cottage it cld. easily be managed, as I usually leave a cook and two servants there when I come down to Tokio.

I telegd. yesterday that the Emperor wld. prefer to give you an audience if you cld. take Yokohama on your way back from the north in September or Octr., as the heat is so great now. The fact is he never receives it [sic. in] Aug. if he can possibly help it. All that etiquette requires has been fulfilled by my having privately expressed your wish to be presented, & I take it that we may regard the audience as not coming off.

We usually make the calls on the Min. of Marine & the Min. Pres. in tall hat & frock coat, so you will not require uniform in Tokio. The lightest possible clothing will do for

³⁸ H.M.S. Hart (275 tons) was a destroyer known as a torpedo catcher, i.e. a small fast vessel for pursuing and destroying torpedo boats.

³⁹ In fact Satow went to meet Seymour, his flag-lieutenant Frederick Powlett and secretary Francis Alton on August 6th. He took the two former to leave cards on Saigo and Okuma, then they took the 1 o'clock train to Nikko. Satow returned to Tokyo on August 13th and Seymour on the 16th. (Satow's diary)

Tokio, and the journey to Nikko. At Chiuzenji one wears light English summer clothing.

Will you kindly teleg. to me whether this proposal will be agreeable to you.

y.v.t.

E.S.

Copy. 28 July. 1898
167

Dear Sir Edward,
Many thanks
for your letter of the 13th &
subsequent tely informing
me of your intended move-
ments. I shall look for you
here on the 5th August. If you
get to Yokohama early
enough that day, how would
it suit you to come up
to Tokio the same afternoon
with Lt. Powlett and Mr. Alton.
The next morning we could
get thro' your calls on the
Min. of Marine & the
Pres't., & after an early lunch
take the one o'clock train to
Nikko. We wd. pass the
night there, & next day go up
to my cottage on Chuzenji
Lake. I am put your up

89

with one of your staff and
Madam O'Gorman has
offered to take in
another. The distance
across the lake from one house
to the other is only 20. min by
boat. This would enable you
to see some part of the best
scenery in this part of Japan.
I must return to Tokio on
the 13th for the incoming
Canadian mail, but if you
liked to stay a day or two
longer at the cottage it
could easily be managed, as I
usually leave a cook and
two servants there when I
come down to Tokio.
I telegraphed yesterday that the
Emperor would prefer to
give you an audience if
you did take Yokohama
on your way back from
the north in September
Oct^r, as the heat is so great
now. The fact is he never
receives it any if he can
possibly help it. All that
epiguette requires has been
fulfilled by my having¹⁶⁸
privately expressed your wish
to be presented, & take it
that we may regard the
audience as not coming off.
We usually make the
calls on the Min. of Marine &
the Min. Pres. in late hot & frock
coat, so you will not require
uniform in Tokio. The
lightest possible clothing will
do for Tokio, and the journey
to Nikko. At Chiyugai road
wears light English summer
clothing.
Will you kindly telegraph to
me whether this proposal
will be agreeable to you.
y. v. t. *CS*

72. Seymour to Satow (p. 169 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

13.8.98

Dear Sir Ernest

I send this with my official letter about the Enquiry into the late fracas near Tokio.⁴⁰

As yet all points to our officers having been sober, & their Captain – himself a teetotaller – says they are steady men.

No doubt they were singing, this is not denied, it is of course possible that something was sung at which offence was taken, I do not know; or that singing there is not de rigueur; but if a Japanese was singing at Henley Regatta I should be scarcely justified thereby in downing him with a bottle! In this I'm sure you will agree with me.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for all your kind hospitality, which I much

⁴⁰ On August 16th Satow showed Komura a copy of Seymour's letter. It was about an incident on the Sumida river when a drunken Japanese threw a bottle and Lieutenant Herbert Pocock of *Narcissus* was injured. Three Japanese men were punished by the Tokyo regional court. (Satow's diary, Ruxton, 2003, p. 298)

enjoyed. You have an ideal retreat on the Lake, & to my mind it's [sic.] distance from the other houses far more than doubles it's value.

It is hot here 80 to 87 on board during the 24 hours.

I am looking forward to having you to dinner tomorrow Sunday at 8. You will wire the time of your train; & will I hope excuse a small party being Sunday & so many officers on leave; & a poor dinner I fear owing to the loss of my poor cook.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

E.H. Seymour

73. Seymour to Satow (p. 171 in file)

[ans. 8/9/98] ⁴¹

H.M.S. Centurion

17.8.98

Dear Sir Ernest

I write these few lines to tell you that as we were weighing to sail today, a telegram came from the Admiralty asking some questions that shewed the tension is again on between us & Russia; and telling me to keep at the end of the wire.

I however consider I should not stay here but move at once towards the Gulf of Pechili & concentrate my fleet at Nagasaki, Wei-hai-wei or Chushan; & have wired to that effect to the Ad[miral]ty, and I await their reply & mean to be off the moment I can.

Meanwhile we are all at single anchor outside the harbour.

I shall probably keep this open to send to the Consul Genl. to forward to you when we do go, & I may have more to add.

I am always

Yours sincerely

E.H. Seymour

P.S. Thursday night, midnight.

I tonight got Ady. telegram, & leave at 8 am tomorrow for Nagasaki. You probably know we are trying to make China do certain things & R. & F. [Russia and France] will no doubt annoy us if they can. I hope to arrive Nagasaki early on Monday, 22nd. EHS.

⁴¹ See PRO 30/33 14/10, No. 38 for Satow's reply.

74. Seymour to Satow (p. 173 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

off Taku Bar

25.9.98

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your letter of 8th. You may be surprised to hear from me here, but the fact is that the Emperor of China's abdication, & the change of rule, & what was heard[?] at Pei-tan-ho where Sir Claude was, made it seem to him so very serious that he sent me an urgent telegram in consequence of which I hastened here with some ships, but shall probably very soon return to Weihaiwei.

I much enjoyed my time as your guest, & hope some day to persuade you to take a cruise, & be mine.

The heat of Japan we were glad to leave & found the air 6° or 7°, & the sea 10° cooler at W-H-W.

All Russia proposes I would at once dissent from; if she suggests disarmament, it means she is not ready for war, force her hand at once. She would never show mercy to any one else, & now before her Railway is complete is our time.

I do not the least expect a coalition including Germany against us, & if not it would only mean the present dual alliance, of which I suspect France begins to see the hollowness.

In turns during my life there have been times when I've thought an alliance with Russia quite possible; with France (besides the Crimean War) quite possible; but now I do not. They were the two peoples I liked, but now no liking can blind me to what I think of their nationality.

I have had a cruise up to the North of the Gulf of Liatong, to the Great Wall &c. Hundreds of my men landed to see the wall. It is certainly a remarkable work, and solid to have stood so well over 2,000 years.

I was sorry to hear of your storm keeping you from Chiuzenji & hope it did not injure your cottage there.

I remain

Yours very sincerely

E.H. Seymour

75. Seymour to Satow (p. 175 in file)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

[15 Nov. Wrote to Brindley, H.A.B. and to Bonar asking abt. docks.]

[ans. preliminary 17/11/98]

H.M.S. Centurion

Wei-Hai-Wei

31.10.98 [recd. 13.11.98]

My dear Sir Ernest

About docking the "Victorious." The dock at Hong Kong is an anxious one to get her in & out of; I was told that the one at Yokosuka had lately been enlarged sufficiently; so I told the Com[mander] of the "Archer" to enquire about it. In reply I got that marked A of enclosure; which induced me to "wire" to you B.

I suspect that the Kuré dock is intended for their new 15,000 ton ships, & if so it would take in the "Victorious" which is smaller. However it may not yet be ready, & in any case of course they must do as they please. I should however like to know if it will take her in, now or by & bye; & having regard to the fact of their 15,000 tons Battle ships; they have now or soon will have a dock that could take the "Victorious", anywhere; & if so if they will, or would, let her go in. It might be very convenient, & even important.

My right arm is recovering from an accident, & I only began to write with it yesterday, & still do so with difficulty. I am kept here by strained relations between us & France; & perhaps Russia; by the Pekin affair & by our Marines soon coming. It begins to cool down here. If things get quiet I shall move South, but I have been much hampered & not able to do what I wished & ought to.

I suppose your weather is charming now; I hope you are well & enjoying it. My recollections of Chuzenji are most agreeable, & I am

Your's very sincerely

E.H. Seymour

Telegram Received.

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From.....Archer, Yokohama.....

Date.....27th October 1898.

No.....

Secretary to Minister of Marine informs me Kure dock
large enough for Victorious and available .

To MINISTER, Tokio .

Would Japanese Government have any objection to Victorious
being docked if required at Kure where I understand there is a
dock sufficiently large .

From MINISTER, Tokio .

Japanese Admiralty states Kure dock entrance unfit will only
admit small vessels.

200.—15.8.98.

76. Seymour to Satow (p. 178 in file)

[ans 17/2. Coal 40 coasting trade 41.]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

New Year's day, 1899

My dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for yours of Novr. 17th & Decr. 19th & for all you tell me about the docks.⁴²

I have no doubt that Kure will be able to take "Victorious" in, but I hope to dock her here, in Feby. & at present can say no more, than that if the risk or weather ultimately prevent it I will at once communicate with you. Before we do try it here what I should like to know is for certain if possible

(a) when will the Kure dock be ready & able to take her; if she were a Japanese ship.

(b) How soon, or when; if at all; might we count on being let dock her there.

If I knew this it would be an alternative to consider.

I hope Japan will not this year with the new Laws &c. become unpleasant for you to live in. The slight coal tax will not matter practically to men of war. I hear European goods will be dearer to buy, which for residents will be unpleasant.

I hope to come to your party & see you in the Late Spring. This plan is our "Caprice", & as such too dissipated for me with my work besides, and Prince & Princess Henry with a German Squadron being here accentuates it all.

I will see how I can best send this, but it has as you see no state secrets. We always try to send "Paraphrases" that wd. not help as keys, such is our rule; if an exception was made it was wrong. Let me wish you a very happy new year, and hold that I am your's

Very sincerely

E.H. Seymour

77. Seymour to Satow (p. 180 in file)

[ans 13/5] ⁴³

⁴² See PRO 30/33 14/10, No. 46, 19 December 1898. Satow wrote to Seymour with the dimensions of two docks and said he had spoken to the new Minister of Marine (Yamamoto Gombei) who had said he was "ready to afford all possible facilities to the Royal Navy." Satow thought that the Japanese authorities would therefore grant the request. See also Satow's diary for 18 December.

⁴³ See PRO 30/33 14/10, No. 67, 13 May 1899. Satow wrote about the Minister of Marine Yamamoto's request that a naval attaché be allowed to be attached to the Japanese consulate at Hong Kong. See letter no. 80 below for Seymour's response to the request.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

H.M.S. Centurion

Hong Kong

21.3.99

My dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your letter of 17th Feb. received early in March.⁴⁴

I am most anxious to dock the “Victorious”; and if the Japanese possess a dock (at Kure or elsewhere) in which she can be taken & they will not do it; we ought to refuse to dock one of their ships in England.

I hope daily to hear from you that the Yokosuka dock has taken the “Victorious” in, & the date; in wh. case I shall at once send her there, & try to get Adm. Fitzgerald over there too to see about it.

I hope to leave here on 23rd in the “Alacrity” for Formosa, Shanghai & the North, I.E. Wei-hai-wei and to visit your country later in the summer, & then have the pleasure of seeing you.

If you have any idea of running over to the N. of China meanwhile I hope you will let me know in good time, so that we might meet.

I do not expect France will be so foolish as to go to war with us – nor am I so wicked I hope to wish it. But I am sure that if she does & no one helps her, it will reduce her to at least a 2nd class power. For us it would be merely a loss of men; the enemy would have to pay an indemnity.

The winter here has been very pleasant, I know not a nicer winter climate.

Prince Henry takes command of the German Squadron next month, & is very anxious to visit Japan. I think he will.

I remain

Your's sincerely

E.H. Seymour

78. Seymour to Satow (p. 182 in file)

[Ans. 4/6/99]

H.M.S. Centurion

⁴⁴ See PRO 30/33 14/10, No. 53, 17 February 1899. Satow wrote to Seymour that he had “hesitated for some time about asking Admiral Yamamoto directly” and that he seemed “unwilling to give the necessary facilities.” On January 8th he had asked Foreign Minister Aoki to speak to Yamamoto about docking “Victorious” at Kure. (Diary)

W-H-W

14.5.99

My dear Sir Ernest

I have "wired" that as you request it "Victorious" shall stay at Yokohama for H.M. birthday. I had wanted her here soon in order to get her stores, ammunition &c., come from H-K. in the "Humber" & take part in drills & prepare for the cruise; as the Fleet sail on 25th.

It is perhaps also well that a ship should be there for the Queen's birthday [on 24 May]; and as the Japanese have been most obliging about docking her I wish to show them all civility; and hope you will kindly express my sense of what they have done. No official report has yet come, but it soon will.

At Formosa in March last the Japanese were most civil & friendly to us.

This place goes on quietly so far though an inclination to riot has in one place appeared. A Shanghai Syndicate to gold mine here; containing 3 Russians has turned up. The Russians were kept in the background; but even before I knew of them I was against it.

I am very anxious about Sir C. Macdonald's health, but the last news from Hong Kong was rather better.

I hope you are well, & that I shall see you this summer. You will know my programme; I hope to be at Yokohama end of August.

I have just been to Korea, & [am] much interested in it; but the people lack energy both mental & physical.

There Russia & Japan should be played off against each other.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

E.H. Seymour

79. Draft/copy of letter from Satow to Captain Anson Schomberg of H.M.S. Victorious (p. 184 in file)

H.M. Legation

Tokio

15 May 1899

Dear Captain Schomberg,

Having heard that you were under orders to leave for Wei-hai-wei on the 21st, so that

Yokohama would be left without one of H.M.'s ships to celebrate the Queen's birthday, after talking the matter over with Admiral Fitzgerald, I ventured to telegraph to the commander in chief [Seymour] to ask whether you might not remain over the 24th. I trust this is not inconvenient to you personally. Yesterday I received a reply from Sir Ed. Seymour that you might stay here till the 25th, & I hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you and as many of the wardroom officers as can come at the garden party I am giving on the 24th.

If not inconvenient can you kindly lend me your band and some flags to decorate the refreshment tent. I would of course provide the bandsmen's railway fare and jinrikisha hire, and make them a suitable present for their trouble.

If you are disposed to spend a few days at Tokio I hope you will consider the Legation as your own house. There are four spare rooms, and I should be glad to see any of your officers you liked to bring with you. There is also a room for a servant.

Yours very truly

Ernest Satow

80. Seymour to Satow (p. 186 in file)

[Recd. 26 June. Ansd. July 23.]

H.M.S. Centurion

W-H-W

10.6.99

My dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for yours of 13th May, just received by the "Barfleur" this afternoon.

It is difficult to answer off hand your question about the resident Japanese officer at Hong Kong; but as "Humber" sails at daylight for Japan, I must send you a few lines by her.

The request is unusual as you know, & Entre nous, I think it an odd one; but it is honest[er] than to do it without asking.

All I can at this moment say to them is that if it is referred to me for my opinion by our Admiralty I shall be happy to give it every consideration.

They will of course ask through their Minister in London. To you I remark that a resident acknowledged Specialist at a fortified Naval base ; is not the same thing as one at a Foreign Capital. We have an attaché at Paris, but I'm sure the French would not admit one to live

always at Brest or Toulon. Nor the Russians at Sevastopol or Port Arthur!

I do not believe the request if granted wd. do us any real harm; but in case of war they wd. have found out all about our forts &c. Then – are they prepared to reciprocate? They can not expect to get every thing from us & grant nothing in return. Again it would be a new precedent & departure. These are only remarks for you ; it must go to our Admiralty who will act as they judge right & possibly refer it to me first for opinion.

I feel sure Japan is friendly to us now & I am in favor of that feeling continuing. I can not say what view the Admiralty would take. But it shd. go through London.

I was very glad to leave the “Victorious” for 24th as you asked for her.

My present idea is to be at Yokohama the end of August, & then I must hope to have the pleasure of seeing you. My time is short for writing so I will only add that I am

Your's very sincerely

E.H. Seymour

81. Seymour to Satow (p. 189 in file)

[Ansd. July 28]

H.M.S. Centurion

Port Lazaref [near Wonsan/Gensan on the Korean East coast]

1.7.99

My dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for yours of 4th June, come today.

You know our programme, & that I hope to be at Yokohama on 30th August; & when there I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you, at Tokio, & on board. To come & stay with you as you kindly suggest would be very pleasant in all ways; but it is of course too far off for either of us to form plans.

Here it is warm & damp. Rains have begun. I hear alarmist rumours from China about revolution at Pekin & insurrection in the South.

The Japanese keep 200 Troops always at this port, at a very neat little settlement 2 miles N.W. of the real old Gensan.

Believe me

Your's sincerely

E.H. Seymour

82. Seymour to Satow (p. 191 in file)

[recd. 12. Wrote Sannomiya 12.]

H.M.S. Centurion

Hakodate

8.8.99

My dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your letter of 25th July, and very kind expression of wish I should again have the pleasure of paying you a visit. I am writing officially to tell you my intended movements, which are to leave here 15th arrive Endermo [Muroran] same day, leave then 18th for Yamada, & arrive Sendai Bay by about 24th & at Yokohama 30th or 31st.

Will you please do whatever is right in the way of my offering to pay my respects to His Majesty the Mikado, I ought certainly to offer to, & if he says "Yes", I will endeavour to fall into any arrangement you like to make for it on 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th Sepr. If he says "No" I can't help it. Same for official visits at Tokio.

With regard to your very kind wish about my coming to Chiuzenji; pray do not put yourself out in any way for me; but I would then ask to settle what I shall do after my arrival at Yokohama; consonant of course with what suits you.

I am at any rate looking forward to the pleasure of a good talk with you again.

Our summer cruize has not generally given very much pleasure, but that of course is not it's [its] first object. The men have been healthy & it has been good for discipline; but I fear leave here will go far to undo all good.

Believe me

Your's very sincerely

E.H. Seymour

83. Handwritten copy of Telegram from Satow to Seymour (p. 193 in file)

British Admiral

Muroran

Hokkaido

Chiuzenji

Aug. 17 [1899]

Audience arranged for, but day not yet fixed. Please send me list of officers who will accompany you, as soon as you reach Yamada.

Satow.

84. Seymour to Satow (p. 194 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

At Sea

19.8.99

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your's of 9th & will you please say what is civil & right to the Japanese about their offer to dock the "Bonaventure" as soon as possible if required.

My letter of 8th will have told you my plans which remain the same; & presumably be dependent on the Mikado seeing me, or not.

About our place of anchorage at Yokohama; it would of course be more convenient if we were inside the breakwater; our position last August there would quite satisfy me. Do you think they will let us, viz. the Flag Ship, lie there; if not how near outside.

I shall probably send a vessel to arrive a day or two before me, perhaps the "Alacrity", & tell her Com[mande]r to acquaint you with his arrival, also see the harbour master, & find out where we may, or must anchor, & let me know on my arrival.

We have now fogs, & have had usually that or rain.

I am

Yours sincerely

E.H. Seymour

85. Seymour to Satow (p. 196 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Sendai Bay

26.8.99

My dear Sir Ernest

I still hope to arrive at Yokohama on 30th or 31st and shall stand by to have an audience with the Mikado on the day you tell me; & to pay any official visits in Tokio which you feel I ought to. I propose to bring with me to the Palace 5 officers besides myself as I said; unless you tell me it is too many.

Their names I will send when I know the number will do.

As I have not yet seen the Hakone district it is that I mean to try & see if I can get away

for a few days from the ships.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

E.H. Seymour

I shall be much obliged if you will tell me whether Passports are or are not now required by us to travel in Japan. EHS.

86. Seymour to Satow (p. 198 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

1.9.99

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your kind note & invitation to stay with you at Tokio.

I am of course waiting for plans at [illegible] till I know which day the Mikado will see me.

If I know it is Saturday (tomorrow) & not early in the morning, I will come up Saturday morning & if possible would like to drive to your house & dress there. If time does not admit of that dress at the Station, where we shifted coats & hats last year.

I would then ask you to put me up till Monday.

If it is Monday I would come up on Sunday p.m. or Monday a.m. as seems best and ask you to put me up till Tuesday or Wednesday.

Ad[mira]l FitzGerald is here & doubtful what he does about giving money[?].

I remain

Your's sincerely

E.H. Seymour

I shall probably only get away for 3 or 4 days at once at [illegible] I am so busy.

87. Seymour to Satow (p. 200 in file)

H.M.S. Centurion

Yokohama

9.9.99.

My dear Sir Ernest

I really enjoyed my visit to you & to your delightful house.

I write to say I mean to leave here on Friday the 15th & arrive at Kobe on Sunday

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

morning the 17th. Leave Kobe in “Alacrity” on 18th or 19th to go through the inland sea. And as I said I shall be very happy if you can come & put up one of your staff too.

The Typhoon passed last night & we only got the skirt of it here.

I have issued such memos about entry of Japan ports that it will not occur again. But it was all known before both by my Memo. of Decr. 12th/ 98 & by the Station order book.

Your's sincerely

E.H. Seymour

88. Rear Admiral James Bruce, second in command, British Far East squadron to Satow (p. 202 in file)

H.M.S. “Barfleur”,

China Station

Hongkong Friday Feb. 2nd 1900

Dear Sir Ernest

I am writing you a line to say that I am leaving here on Monday next, for Weihaiwei & Japan, & I hope to be at Yokohama about the middle of March, stopping at Nagasaki – & probably Kobe en route. As I hope to make a lengthened stay at Yokohama, I have written to Mr. Bonar to ask him if he could ingratiate the Admiral Harbour Master, to let me inside the Breakwater as over[?] a prolonged stay it is so infinitely more convenient than being outside.⁴⁵ My [illegible] who you met at Gibraltar, will be joining me there, I hope in March. I hope to pay my respects to you as soon as possible after my arrival.

Truly Yrs

James Bruce

89. Bruce to Satow (p. 204 in file)

H.M.S. “Barfleur”,

China Station

Wei hai wei to Nagasaki

Friday March 2nd

⁴⁵ See Satow to Salisbury, PRO 30/33 14/11, 12 April 1900. Satow mentions he has been trying unsuccessfully to obtain permission. See also Satow's diary for 30 March 1900 when he took Admiral Bruce to the Minister of Marine Yamamoto Gombei with the request, but found “this extremely disagreeable person as disagreeable as usual.” Satow tried again with Aoki on 5 April, and on 12 April Satow complained to Aoki that various obstacles placed in the way were “mere subterfuges”.

Dear Sir Ernest

I have to thank you for your two very kind letters. I am sure that my Lady will be proud to accept your kind invitation to spend a few days with you whilst she is inspecting the sights of the Japanese Capital, but before that I shall hope to pay my respects. I left that abortive British possession of Weihaiwei on Wednesday evening & hope to arrive at Nagasaki tomorrow morning, & remain there till 9th or 10th, & then go through Inland Sea by Simonoseki to Kobé, where I ought to arrive somewhere about 13th & then a few days there & Yokohama I should say about 20th. We have had very cold weather at W-h-w, bitterly cold North wind, & we passed the Russian Squadron steering NW on Wednesday night, & they promptly illuminated us with their search lights, which compliment we did not return. I know Isvolsky⁴⁶ pretty well, we were at “St. Moritz in Venice” together, when he was in attendance on Madame Annandez[?] & was also there at St. Moritz when the General returned somewhat unexpectedly from ‘Central Asia’ & threw all the flowers in his wife’s room out of the window, onto the heads of the other occupants of the hotel, who were promenading below. We may hope to see her & her beautiful sister, now married to a Frenchman, in Japan. ‘Monsr. J.’ is a very pleasant & I should say, exceedingly subtle gentleman, & a brilliant linguist but I should doubt Japanese belonging to his stock.

I apologise for this long [] & shall hope to meet soon.

Very truly yrs

James Bruce

90. Bruce to Satow (p. 208 in file)

H.M.S. “Barfleur”,

China Station

Nagasaki, Wednesday 7th.

Dear Sir Ernest

I propose leaving here on Friday afternoon & shall probably arrive at Kobé on Monday. I have been staying at Nagasaki Hotel, where I met [Belgian minister to Japan] ‘Baron d’Anethan’ every evening, he is off back to Tokyo I think on Friday in “China”. From what I gather from him, ‘the German Consul’ & ‘ours’ &c. it appears to me that the Japanese intend to keep their Naval manoeuvres entirely secret, but you will doubtless know more than they do on the subject, but I think their love for secretiveness will be shewn on this

⁴⁶ Presumably Aleksandr Petrovich Isvolsky, Russian minister in Japan, 1900-03.

occasion, & that they have no intention of being spied upon.

Very truly yours

James Bruce

91. Bruce to Satow (p. 210 in file)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Yokohama

April 5th/4/00

We returned like children to school, after our delightful holiday, & I have been living all day amongst trumpets, bands & guns; four Admirals in Yokohama amounts almost to an 'embarras'.

I am sorry to say that my information about the Japanese ammunition came to me through the female line, & under the strictest promise of secrecy, & in hopes of more from the same source, otherwise I should have told you all about it before.

I sent you the telegram as soon as I got the information today, in the hope that you might have it before you visited the Foreign Minister [Aoki].

The French Admiral 'Courjolles' is a very pleasant man. We lunched with German Admiral today, nobody except his own people, & I had a visit in the afternoon, on board, from Madame d'Anethan & Miss C. Smith. The Mme is very much better for her Tokio trip, & we are much indebted to you for all your hospitality.

Very truly yrs

James Bruce

92. Bruce to Satow (p. 212 in file)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Yokohama, Friday 6th/4/1900

Dear Sir Ernest

I am sending you another letter tomorrow, to ask for an answer from the Japanese Govt. on the subject of my going 'inside' [i.e. inside the breakwater], as there is plenty of depth of water - & room.

The American Admiral I think is sending in a similar request for his small ship

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

‘Concord’, which also has both engines disabled, so I suppose the J. Govt. will have ‘The American Minister’ also, hammering at their door. For their own future peace of mind they would live longer if they followed the customs of civilized nations.

Very truly yours

James Bruce

93. Bruce to Satow (p. 214 in file)

The Oriental Hotel

Yokohama, Japan

Telephone No. 846.

Friday. Later. [6 April 1900]

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you for your letter. I had fired off mine to you before I got yours, so I had better [postpone?] “tomorrow’s shot” for a day or two.

Very truly yrs

James Bruce

94. Bruce to Satow (p. 215 in file)

H.M.S. “Barfleur”,

China Station

Saturday 7th/4/00

Dear Sir Ernest

Regarding the salutes to Japanese Prefects[?] which we discussed, the gentleman belonging to this place was saluted by French Admiral this morning with 15 guns which puts us somewhat at a disadvantage. I shall probably visit him next week - & shall not be able to salute him when he comes on board, which will also probably cause him some sensations of an unpleasing nature towards ourselves.

On Monday if I have heard nothing in the meantime I shall send you ‘No. 2 letter’ on subject of breakwater. ‘American Minister’ has been visiting ‘Brooklyn’ this morning.

Very truly yrs

James Bruce

95. Bruce to Satow (p. 217 in file)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Yokohama

Monday 9th/4/00

Dear Sir Ernest

As the communication from the 'J. Foreign Office' was in direct opposition to what really took place – as my Navigator found an excellent berth for this ship inside the Breakwater I cannot leave the matter in that unsatisfactory state. I am sending this correspondence to you, with a 2nd letter of request for International Courtesy. I heard from my 'C i Chief' this morning, no particular news except 'F.O.' ordered two ships to go to 'Taku' to demonstrate against somebody, so 'Hermione' & 'Brisk' have gone there & [Resident General of the Federated Malay States] 'Frank Swettenham' is going to W-H-W next month to "consider & report on the administration of that place." , when I shall probably be present, & that will 'first move' against Re domination. My Navigator has just returned from Harbor Office & they entirely deny that they said anything about 'one of our officers' saying that the chain was not strong enough'; but it is no good putting that in the official letter. I heard 'CB' [Cherry Blossom?] Garden Party is next Sunday.

Very truly yours

James Bruce

96. Bruce to Satow (p. 219 in file)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Yokohama

Monday 9th/4/1900

Dear Mr. Whitehead

Many thanks for your letter, but the information given to you by the Foreign Office was in direct opposition to what actually took place, & my navigating officer found that the berth under the Breakwater where 'Valkyria' was to [be] in every way suitable to this ship, so I am forwarding another letter to 'Sir Ernest'. We are shivering with cold again here, & have a Russian (Admiral Korniloff) added to our Squadron.

Truly yrs

James Bruce

97. Bruce to Satow (p. 221 in file)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Yokohama, Monday 10th/4/00

Dear Sir Ernest

From my point of view, which is entirely subordinate to yours, it does not appear to be that it would be proper or dignified for me, as a British Admiral, to put up with an evasive answer (verbal) which is so directly opposed to the unwritten law of all Western & civilized nations, without letting it be known to our 'Governing Body' what the Courteousness of this Japanese Govt. amounts to in comparison to what they receive from us, & I think for us to give more than we get is a wrong form of the 'Christian precept' of turning the other cheek, & may be mistaken for weakness & certainly would not be taken for strength, & that a strong, firm, courteous line would suit them & us best, because it is a thing to which there must be a finish, & I should say "better today than tomorrow." I will send you the names tomorrow of those who have tall hats &c, & their wives who have bonnets. I kept my Saturday letter until yesterday. My luncheon party to German Legation could not come off today for bad weather.

Very truly yrs,

James Bruce

98. Satow replies to Bruce (p. 223 in file)

Copy

Tokio

11 April 1900

Dear Admiral Bruce,

I quite agree with you about the impossibility of accepting any evasive answer from the Jap. Govt. whether verbal or otherwise, and whatever the result of my representations may prove to be shall be ready to show you, and if you desire it, furnish you with copies of the correspce. betw. myself & the Japse. Auth. I propose also to send the official correspce. to the F.O. in London.

When Whitehead wrote to you on the 7th he was not, I think, aware that on the previous afternoon, after my private letter to you was written, an official reply came from the Min.

for F.A. to say that there was only one spot fit for the accommodation of your flagship, namely the vicinity of buoy no 12, and that it was then occupied by another vessel. As I did not consider this reply satisfactory, I left instructions for Mr. Lay to talk to the F.O. people abt. the matter, & it was their verbal reply that Whitehead sent to you. On the strength of your letter of the 9th, I wrote yesterday officially controverting both the written and verbal statements of the F.O. people. We shall see what this will bring forth. I am quite at one with you in this matter.

y.v.t.

E.S.

Copy. To Kio
11 April 1900
223

Dear Admiral Bruce,

I quite agree with you about the impossibility of accepting any evasive answer from the Jap. Govt. whether verbal or otherwise, and whatever the result of my representations may prove to be shall be ready to show you, and if you desire it, furnish you with copies of the correspondence betw. myself & the Jap. Govt. I propose also to send the official correspondence to the F.O. in London. "9

When Whitehead wrote to you on the 7th he was not, I think, aware that on the previous afternoon, after my private letter to you was written, an official reply came from the Min. for F. & A. to say that there was only one spot fit for the accommodation of your flagship, namely the vicinity of buoy no 12, and that it was then occupied by another vessel. As I did not consider this reply satisfactory, I left instructions for Mr. Lay to talk to the F. & A. people abt. the matter, but was their²²⁴ verbal reply that Whitehead sent to you. On the strength of your letter of the 9th, I wrote yesterday officially controverting both the written and verbal statements of the F. & A. people. We shall see what this will bring forth. I am quite at one with you in this matter.
Y. v. L.
J. B.

99. Bruce to Satow (p. 225 in file)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Yokohama, Thursday 12th/4/1900

Dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for kindly saying that you will have us to lunch on Saturday: we will go up by the 11.35 train.

I should be much obliged if you could let me have a covering letter which I would send to the 'C i Chief' with the rest of my correspondence as it would be of much assistance in letting him & the Admiralty know that I had the approval & assistance of Her Majesty's Minister.

The weather is decidedly trying.

Very truly yours

James Bruce

100. Bruce to Satow (p.227 in file)

H.M.S. "Barfleur",

China Station

Tuesday 17th/4/1900

Yokohama

Dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for your 'covering letter', which is exactly what I wanted.

'Uraga' is twelve miles off & quite impracticable. I should have to run the risk of steaming twelve miles, there are no advantages that I know of when I got there, altho' Yokohama [] Works that were carrying out the repairs, could not do so twelve miles away. What a lovely day.

We misunderstood German diplomacy, as when I returned on Saturday from the Consul Von L to say "that he did not wish me to think that he had said he was going to 'Kyoto' & had not gone &c." so to lunch he came yesterday & apparently enjoyed himself.

Very truly yrs

James Bruce

101. Capt. George A. Callaghan to Satow (p. 229 in file)

H.M.S. Endymion

China Station

Nagasaki

Feb. 19th

Dear Sir Ernest Satow

The Admiral has desired me to ascertain if possible when & where the coming Japanese naval manoeuvres are to take place. As there is no Japanese man of war present & no one here from whom I can obtain reliable information I should be greatly obliged if you could inform me, so that I could let the Admiral know.

He asks, if time presses, that he may receive the answer by telegraph. I am leaving here on Sunday (25th) for Wei-hai-wei. If you could let me know before then I should be very grateful.

Yrs Sincerely

G.A. Callaghan

Capt. R.N.

102. Rear Admiral C.L. Oxley to Satow (p. 231 in file)

H.M.S. Grafton

Nagasaki

April 24th

Dear Sir Ernest

I arrived here from Shanghai this morning, so have only just got your letter enclosing the permission to visit the ports between Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama. My many thanks for the trouble you have taken to get it for me. Since writing to you last I have been to Manilla, and also Nanking – which made my arrival here rather later than I had expected. We had very good weather for our trip up the Yang-tse, and with the peach blossoms at their best, it was very pretty. I am expecting the Commander in chief here about the 1st May. Hoping you are quite well.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

C.L. Oxley

103. C.E. Kingsmill to Satow (p. 233 in file)

[telegd. fr. Atami 21 Oct. my regrets]

Yokohama United Club

No. 5 Bund

Oct. 19 [no year given]⁴⁷

Dear Sir Ernest Satow

I have arrived here in “Archer” for a week’s stay and would be pleased to call upon you if you would kindly let me know when such a visit would be convenient to yourself.

Yours sincerely

C.E. Kingsmill

104. Pelly[?] to Satow (p. 234 in file)

H.M.S. Porpoise

[undated]

⁴⁷ Satow was at Atami from 9th to 21st October 1898, so this letter is probably from that year.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Naval authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/10. August 1895-April 1900)

Dear Mr. Satow,

I received your letter & will give or forward the enclosed to the Admiral. The Japanese Governor called yesterday, & Mr. Hall had confirmed what you said saying that he was entitled to every respect except a salute, so I gave him none.

The Frenchman & Russian on whom he called next gave him 13 guns, why I do not know. Curiously enough the French representative called next & also got 13 guns from the same ships. We sail this afternoon & I hope we won't encounter the last of the typhoons, but if there is one anywhere about, we are sure to find it.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

W.[?] Pelly

[End of file]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (September 1895-March 1900)

1. Satow to the Marquis Itō (draft/copy)

Private

B.L. [British Legation]

28/9/95

My dear Marquis,

If five o'clock on Wednesday October 2 would be convenient to you Mr. David Jackson the Manager of the Hongkong Shanghai B[ankin]g Corp[oratio]n at Yokohama would be pleased to wait upon you with his accountant Mr. Barker at that time. Will you kindly tell me whether this would suit you, and also at what place you will receive them.

Yours v[ery]. s[incerely].

E.S.

H.E. The Marquis Itō

2. Baron Yoshitsune Sannomiya¹ to Satow (p. 3 in file)

Novr. 9th 1895

Dear Minister

Many thanks for your kind note. It is very good of you to put off Yokohama Race meeting till the day after the funeral of H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa. I will not fail to inform the Princess about it. I am quite sure she should feel very grateful to you and the members to be shown such a mark of respect for her husband.

I am sorry to say the Imperial Garden Party is not yet fixed, in my private opinion it may be about the 15th or 16th. I will inform you at once when the day is settled.

Yours very truly

Y. Sannomiya

¹ Baron Sannomiya Yoshitane (1844-1905) and his English-born wife Alethea Yayeno Sannomiya (1846-1919) married in London in 1874. Sannomiya was a student at the time, then he worked for the Japanese Foreign Office as Second Secretary at the Berlin Legation, 1877-80. After returning to Japan he transferred to the Department of the Imperial Household, and became Grand Master of Ceremonies (*Shikibuchokan*) in 1895. (See Noboru Koyama, *Three Meiji Marriages between Japanese Men and English Women*, Ch. 33, *Britain and Japan: Biographical Portraits*, Volume IV, 2002, pp. 383-96.)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

3. Minister of Justice Yoshikawa to Satow (p. 5 in file)²

19th Nov. 1895

Tokio

My dear Mr. Satow

In acknowledging your letter I have the pleasure to answer you that I shall give, as far as matters allow, a proper consideration to Ishida Asaharu at the time of any distribution of official posts.

Believe me my dear Minister,

Yours very truly

Masaaki Yoshikawa

4. F.O. Secretary Nakada Takanori to John H. Gubbins (p. 6 in file)³

Jan. 13, 1896

Dear Mr. Gubbins,

The amount of the appropriation asked to the Diet for the new Consulates in China and Corea from the next fiscal year is Yen 80,801. This includes all expenses.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

T. Nakada

5. Satow to Marquis Saionji [?] ⁴ (p. 7 in file)

Copy

Légation d'Angleterre

le 3 mars 1896

Mon cher Marquis,

Je me permets d'envoyer a V.E. un pro-memoria sur la question de la préparation du camphor en Formose, en vous priant de bien vouloir y prêter votre consideration bienveillante.

Bien cordialement à vous.

² On 19 November 1895 Satow noted: "Ishida Asaharu. Wrote to Yoshikawa on his behalf." (Satow's Diary)

³ Gubbins enclosed this reply from Nakada to an enquiry from him in a letter to Satow. See Gubbins to Satow, PRO 30/33 5/4, No. 27, 13 January 1896. (Volume One of this book, p. 65)

⁴ Saionji Kinmochi (1849-1940) was a court noble and Foreign Minister at the time. He spoke French.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

6. Satow to Saionji[?] (p. 8)

Copy

personnelle

Légation d'Angleterre

le 4. mars 1896

Mon cher Marquis

En réponse à la question que V.E. m'avez[?] adressée hier par l'intermédiaire de M. Nakada, je m'empresse de vous faire connaître les noms de vapeurs envoyés à Formosa avec des cargaisons d'opium, c'est à dire, à Tamsui le "Formosa", à Anping le "Thales."

J'espère que le moyen sera trouvé d'admettre à la douane les cargaisons de ces deux navires. E.S.

7. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 9 in file)

March the 31st 1896

Impl Household

My dear Minister,

Many thanks for your letter informing me about the movement of Lord & Lady Spencer,⁵ while they stay in Japan.

I think it would be better if you write now to the Minister for Foreign Affairs for a private audience of the Emperor & the Empress for Lord & Lady Spencer (Lady Spencer for the Empress only) at the same time you had better to ask the Minister Saionji Miss Lowther's audience for the Empress with Lady Spencer.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you hear the day & hour of the Lord's departure of Kioto. There is not much time if they leave Kioto on the 3rd April, as I must inform the manager of the Railway Company at once.

Yours very faithfully

Y. Sannomiya

⁵ John Poyntz, 5th Earl of Spencer (1835-1910). Liberal peer. First Lord of the Admiralty 1892-95. He inspected the new Japanese naval dockyards at Kure (Hiroshima prefecture) and Sasebo (Nagasaki prefecture). Satow wrote two letters to Thomas B. Glover in advance of Spencer's visit, and Spencer wrote to Glover from Miyanoshita on April 8, 1896 thanking him for his attention and for notes of the dimensions of Sasebo dock. (See *The Diaries and Letters of Sir Ernest Mason Satow*, ed. I. Ruxton, Edwin Mellen Press, 1998, pp. 461-62.)

8. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 11 in file)

April 1st 1896

Impl. Household

My dear Minister

I called on Marquis Ito this morning and told him all particulars what you have informed me by your last letter, he said he will be most happy to meet Lord Spencer on any day at His Lordship's convenient hour, if you let him know it beforehand.

I beg you will be good enough to ask whether Lord & Lady Spencer would be free on the 16th evening to come to Koyōkwan (Maple Club) in Shiba Park for Japanese dinner.

I am sorry to say His Majesty has got a slight cold from yesterday, he is in his bed. I hope His Majesty will be better soon and be able to receive Lord Spencer.⁶

Yours very faithfully

Y. Sannomiya

P.S. I shall be so pleased to hear about the day & hour of the departure of his Lordship from Kyoto, as soon as possible.

Y.S.

9. William H. Stone⁷ to Satow (p. 14 in file)

Teishinsho [Ministry of Communications]

10th April 1896

Dear Sir Ernest,

Replying to your note of yesterday – with cutting from paper. Apart from the improbability of either Mr Den [?] or Matsunaga having anything to say to any reporter of the Mainichi Shimbun the whole thing is too absurd – all inferences and statements utterly erroneous – no doubt evolved out of the writer's inner consciousness – on the penny a line system.

No one would, I think, be more embarrassed than Japan if the Budapest Conference were to fix its next sitting at such an out of the way place as Tokio. Part of the talk may

⁶ On April 2nd Sannomiya told Satow that the Emperor had influenza and it would be four or five weeks before he recovered. He would be unable to grant an audience to the Spencers. The entertainment to welcome the Spencers was held at Kōyōkwan on 10th April. Satow called with Lord Spencer on Ito the next day. On April 13th Satow took the Spencers and Miss Lowther for an audience with the Empress. The Spencers left Yokohama on April 17th. (Satow's diary)

⁷ William Henry Stone (1837-1917). British adviser on telegraphy to the Japanese Government from 1872 till his death.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

however have been chaff at some Japanese GoChiso [banquet], served up again.

Looking over the list I find there are some 17 or 18 Extra-European Administrations. They all vote on their own account. Very often England, British India and the Colonies vote on opposite sides of a question.

Fortunately the whole of the propositions (including Japan's) for consideration at the next Conference – collected and printed by the international office at Berne – arrived here about 21 days before Mr Den [?] left – and I was able to go through them and write marginal notes for his information or guidance in one of the volumes. I have kept the other here. Whilst supporting some of the English propositions - the French propositions, which are more numerous but also more liberal and accommodating for the Commercial Community, will get our general support.

When you are free – after your guests have gone – should you wish to see the proposals then I shall be glad to come up some forenoon and then I can tell you the very few, but sensible, instructions Mr Den will try to carry out.

Yours very sincerely

Wm. H. Stone

Newspaper cutting in Japanese

り伊太利に於て鐵道にて匈牙利に行く都合なり
 亞細亞の同盟國
 萬國郵便電信聯合會に加盟する者四十餘國にして亞
 細亞より之れに加盟する者は僅かに三國曰く日本
 暹羅、白耳斯是なり支那の如き大帝國なれども
 此同盟に加入する資格なきは残念なり、爲之萬國
 聯合會とは云ふ者の歐洲諸國常々牛耳を取り何事も
 「歐洲以外」の國は別名を附し便利の大小を異にせ
 り今回
 我帝國より提出する問題
 の要部は此聯邦會議が「歐洲以外」と云へる語を用
 ふるを廢するにあり「歐洲以外」と云へる語に伴ふ
 帝國の不便と云へる一例を挙げれば電報の數字に
 歐洲諸國は十字を一言信とすれども「歐洲以外」は
 七字を以て一文字とする不便の類なり、同一聯合
 電信にてありながら獨り歐洲諸國が十字を一言信
 とするは不道達千萬故に之を廢し各國平等の字數
 を一言信と爲さんとするにあり、然るに之れに伴
 ふ難儀と云ふは郵便事業なれば勢力ある米合衆國
 も我帝國と利害を共にするが故に「歐洲以外」と云
 へる一種の難儀を廢するに同意すれども電信事業
 は米合衆國は國立にあらざして私立なるが故に日
 本と一致の運動を爲すや否やは疑はし若し合衆國
 にして我帝國と運動を共にせざる時は自餘の邦國
 は南米の諸國と云ひ亞細亞の諸國と云ひ何れも勢
 力ある者なし、云はゞ日本の獨力にて歐洲諸國の
 專横を制するの事情なれば此は隨分事業なり、
 故に今回の聯合會議にて日本の勢力を張るは間接
 に「歐洲以外」の諸國の權力を代表する姿なれば名
 譽ある事業と共に之れに難事の伴ふ者なり
 其用語
 萬國郵便電信聯合會議の用語は會議の規定に於て
 佛蘭西語を用ふるとなれり、故に如何に英、獨
 語を能くするも會議に之を用ふるを得ず、今回出
 席の三名は田氏の外は皆佛語に巧みければ格別の不
 便なからん
 記者曰萬國郵便聯合會議の始終「歐洲以外」と云
 宿泊するの場所なし、西洋貴紳が遙々東京に來り
 て野宿したりと云はゞ之れ「帝國の大難題」、又
 日本に英語通達の人には随分あれども佛蘭西語通達の人
 は至て乏し、爲之日本に此會議を開くの説は勢力
 至て微弱なり
 記者曰く日本の佛蘭西人口は英語人口に比して少
 數なり、是れ佛蘭西は英語に比して需用少きに由
 る、然れども若し強て佛蘭西の會議となすならは
 日本に佛蘭西に通ずる者豈に百人二百人に止らん
 や此會議に列席する者百人と見るも一委員に二
 人三人の通譯を附するも可なり、又旅館を不足
 なりと云はゞ三百人五百人を容るゝの旅館を建
 設すると何の難きあらん、日本人中万國博覽
 會を開設せんとするの希望を懷く者多し、郵便
 電信聯合會に充つる旅館を造るが如き民間有志
 の力にても餘りあり、本期の會議は宜しく我
 東京にて開くべきなり
 聯合會議英露の衝突
 英露兩國の衝突は獨り國境問題に止らず郵便事業
 にも兩國の衝突あり、蓋し英は全世界に領地又は
 屬國を有し勵もすれば專横を極むるに由る、万國
 郵便電信會議は一國一票を定規とす、而るに英は
 屬領多きが爲り、勢力大なるが爲り、其領地なる
 印度に一票を有し、歐洲に一票カナダに一票、本國
 を合せて四票を有す、(佛國も屬地に一票を有す)
 數年前の事なり英は四票の權利を有する上に尙ほ
 亞フリカ希望地に一票を得んと企てたり
 他諸國は遠慮して之れに故障を入るゝ者なかり
 しが獨り佛國は之れに故障を入れたり、其衝突の
 末曲直を万國聯合會議に訴ふるとなる、英は
 訴訟の自國に不利なるを見るにや、中途に其訴
 訟を取消し英露兩國示談するとを申出で訴訟は
 其まゝ消え失せたり、多分英より其要求を撤回し
 たるならん

10. Motono Ichirō to Satow (p. 16 in file)

Tokio le 12. Mai '96.

Monsieur le Ministre,

Le Comte Mutsu [Munemitsu] à qui je me suis empressé de communiquer le billet de Votre Excellence me charge de lui transmettre ses remerciements pour les renseignements qu'elle lui a donnés.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'expression de mes hommages les plus respectueux.

I. Motono

P.S. Le Comte Mutsu, souffrant depuis deux jours est obligé de rester encore quelques jours à Oiso.

11. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 17 in file)

13th May 1896.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

Dear Sir Ernest,

According to my promise, I herewith enclose you a list of names of the Master of Ceremonies now in Tokyo.

Hoping it will serve your purpose,

I remain

Yours Truly

Y. Sannomiya

P.S. Will you kindly let me know whether you intend receiving congratulations on the occasion of Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday on the 23rd instead of the 24th as that day falls on a Sunday; or whether you will receive on the proper day in spite of its being Sunday.⁸

12. Stone to Satow (p. 19 in file)

Private

14th May 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

Re Parcel-post convention. The principal alteration made is to bring the charges equal both ways. In the English draft 2d per parcel for Custom House formalities in country of delivery was to be prepaid, for parcels from Japan – whilst 2½d per parcel, for the same purpose, on parcels to Japan was (not prepaid but) to be collected from the receiver. This we have altered and made it 2d – and to be prepaid – both ways.

There are one or two slight verbal alterations, of no consequence.

The Draft Convention (sent from London in the usual Government printers rough form, with sundry blank spaces) has now been engrossed here on the gold bordered, kiri water-marked, stiff paper used by Japan for such purposes, and goes to the General Post Office, London, for signature by the mail of the 23rd Instant.

Yours very truly,

Wm. H. Stone

P.S. Your note of this morning just to hand. I shall inquire into it, but I am sure nothing is being done at present. W.H.S.

⁸ Satow held a garden party to celebrate Queen Victoria's birthday on 23 May 1896. (Diary) She was born on 24 May 1819.

13. Count Mutsu Munemitsu to Satow (p. 20 in file)

Tokio.

June 2nd 1896.

My dear Sir Ernest,

I am extremely obliged to you for your kind expression of sympathy in your note under yesterday's date and for the hope you are good enough to convey in it for my speedy recovery from my present illness.

I desire also to express my thanks to you for your unfailing courtesy to me during our official intercourse which I regret has been very short.

I hope to have the pleasure of calling upon you as soon as the state of my health permits.

Believe me

My dear Sir Ernest,

Yours very sincerely

Mutsu⁹

14. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 22 in file)

July 10th 1896.

My dear Minister,

Many thanks for your letter of yesterday. I, at once, informed His Majesty Admiral Buller's telegraph regarding to the latest disaster of our northern provinces.

I think you have already received a letter from Count Hijikata [Hisamoto, Imperial Household Minister] in asking you to convey to the Admiral the Emperor's gratitudes.

I shall send you an answer tomorrow about your carriage and horses, as the Chief of Imperial stable has not been to his office last yesterday.

I thank you very much for your kind inquiry after my wife's health. I may tell you the truth quite Confidentially that she has met unfortunately another little accident about 10 days ago, so we could not get away from Tokio, however I am so thankful to say that she is getting on very nicely & will be able to drive out in a few days, so please do not [be]

⁹ Mutsu Munemitsu, Count (1844-97). Imprisoned 1878-82 for involvement in an anti-cabinet plot. Foreign minister from 1892-96. Best known for ridding Japan of the "unequal treaties" imposed by Western powers and for his diplomacy during the Sino-Japanese War. When the three powers (Russia, France and Germany) intervened after the Treaty of Shimonoseki to force Japan to return the Liaotung Peninsula to China, the outraged Japanese public blamed Mutsu. He died in 1897, soon after completing *Kenkenroku* ('A Record of Suffering'), translated as *Kenkenroku: A Diplomatic Record of the Sino-Japanese War, 1894-95* by Gordon M. Berger, (Tokyo: Tokyo University Press, 1982).

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

anxious about her and keep that in Confidence.

I hope you[r] new villa in Chuzenji will be completely ready soon, as weather in Tokio is getting very hot.

I am sorry I can't get away from town before the 8th August, my wife may go to Nikko before that.

I am

Yours truly

Y. Sannomiya

15. Itō Hirobumi to Satow (p. 24 in file)

My dear Sir Ernest,

I beg to offer my sincerest thanks to you for your kind letter of yesterday enclosing a most valuable communication. The matter will receive most careful attention on our part.

Believe me

Yours very truly

Hirobumi Ito

July 31, 1896

16. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 25 in file)

April 15/97

My dear Sir Ernest,

I am glad to inform you in Confidence that H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa will go to England to attend the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, I think that is almost settled, perhaps you have already heard about it.¹⁰

Yours very truly

¹⁰ On 8 April 1897 Okuma told Satow that Arisugawa would probably be sent. On April 15th Okuma said that Arisugawa wished to go to Europe in a Japanese warship. On April 22nd Satow advised Okuma that Arisugawa should go via Canada. On April 23rd Yamao Yōzō told Satow that Arisugawa's appointment would be made public in a day or two. Satow called on Arisugawa on April 25th and a dinner was given by Okuma in the Prince's honour on the 26th. On the 28th Satow dined at Arisugawa's to meet Okuma and several naval officers. On the 30th Satow gave a dinner to Arisugawa, Okuma, some Foreign Office officials, Saigō and his naval A.D.C. On May 5th in Kyoto the Emperor Meiji asked Satow to do all he could for Arisugawa. Satow left Yokohama by the "Empress of India" on May 7th. On May 10th he spoke on board with Itō who said the Emperor had wanted him to go as an adviser to Arisugawa. Satow thought this was Itō's own idea, and that Okuma found it "very distasteful." He noted that Itō seemed to expect some orders from the Emperor to be sent by telegraph to him when he was in London. (Satow's diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

Y. Sannomiya

P.S. The audience you have asked [for], will take place after the Emperor will return here from Kioto very likely at the beginning of May.

Y.S.

17. Marquis Saionji to Satow (p. 27 in file)

Mardi le 8 septembre¹¹

Mon cher Ministre,

Je m'empresse de vous communiquer très confidentiellement la réponse que nous avons donnée aux trios Puissances hier aussi qu'un télégramme qui m'a été communiqué le 5 courant par le Ministre de Russie, concernant la question de Liaotung.

Bien cordialement à vous

Marquis Saionji

S.E. Monsieur Satow

18. Mitsuhashi to Satow (p. 28 in file) ¹²

Private

Foreign Office

Oct. 2nd 1896.

My dear Minister,

With reference to Mr. McCalmont's visit of which you spoke this afternoon, it is necessary that we should refer the matter to other Departments, and it would facilitate matters if some object of the visit is mentioned in your official communication. If Mr. McCalmont has no particular object, I would suggest that some scientific [sic. scientific] investigation might be stated as the object of his visit.

I am,

Yours very sincerely.

N. Mitsuhashi

¹¹ This letter may be from 1895. The Triple Intervention occurred in April of that year.

¹² On 2 October 1896 Satow went by appointment to Okuma Shigenobu who had succeeded Saionji as Minister for Foreign Affairs with effect from September 22nd. "McCalmont's yacht. He at once said he would have instructions sent to the Prefects in the Inland Sea to give him facilities, and would not even have required an official note, but for a suggestion from [F.O. Secretary] Mitsuhashi. The latter afterwards wrote me a note suggesting that if McCalmont had no special object, it should be stated that he wanted to land for scientific investigation."

19. Satow to Okuma – copy (p. 30 in file)

[October 1896]

Monr. Le Min,

Mr. Harry McCalmont¹³ a Member of the House of Commons now travelling in this country on board his yacht the “Giralda” belonging to the R.Y.S. [Royal Yacht Squadron] has applied to me to obtain permission for him on his departure fr. Kōbe early in the month of Nov. to anchor en route to Nagasaki at such ports and Islands in the Inland Sea as may be convenient to him.

I shd. be very much [obliged] if Y[our].E[xcellency]. wld. be so good as to obtain for Mr. McCalmont permission to anchor and land on the islands & coasts of the Inland Sea on the ground of scientific investigation.

20. W.H. Stone to Satow (p. 32 in file)

[On crested notepaper with Latin “In Solo Deo Salus”]

Private

Friday. 15. [no month or year given]

Dear Sir Ernest,

I have made inquiry into the matter – translation of your note to the Guaimusho was received here – before the departure of Mr. Den, but was considered simply “à titre d’information” from the F.O. and as not requiring reply, at least from this Department.

The views here are that nothing will be done at present. Mr Den will probably hear all that is to be said – from the GN Co’s Director at Budapest – when in London, and in America, afterwards – and report what he has heard when he returns here in February.

I know that: so far as regards the Gt Northern & Eastern Companies, combined – his opinion is the same as mine – against!

As regards the American Coy – it was only preliminary talk, nothing definite – but they would ask a large subsidy, and he told me he was sure that the Diet would not vote a subsidy to any foreign company.

Meantime nothing is being done, or even thought about. If the English proposal is on the same lines as one that de Bunsen ¹⁴ brought up – and if the cable is intended to have

¹³ Colonel Harry McCalmont (1861-1902) was an army officer, racehorse owner, yachtsman and Conservative politician. In 1895 he was elected the M.P. for Newmarket.

¹⁴ Maurice de Bunsen was Secretary of Legation in 1891 and chargé d’affaires 1892-4.

Hawaii intermediate (a very strong consideration with the Japanese), other things being equal, it should have equal, if not better, chances – (and if there is anything in the much talked-of strong friendship between Japan and England, the chances should be more).

In any case – when I fully understand the English proposals – you may be sure my advice, whatever it may be worth, will fall in with what may appear to be British interests (and against anti-British) being sure that the Japanese interests will not suffer.¹⁵

Yours very sincerely

Wm. H. Stone

21. Itō Hirobumi to Satow (p. 34 in file)¹⁶

[Undated]

My Dear Sir Ernest,

As to Mr Raymond Blathwayt, the “Daily News” correspondent, will you be good enough to inform him that I shall be glad to see him at my official residence at 4 p.m. on the 19th instant (Monday).

Believe me, my dear Sir Ernest,

Yours very truly

Hirobumi Ito

Thursday

22. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 35 in file)

Saturday [undated]

My dear Minister,

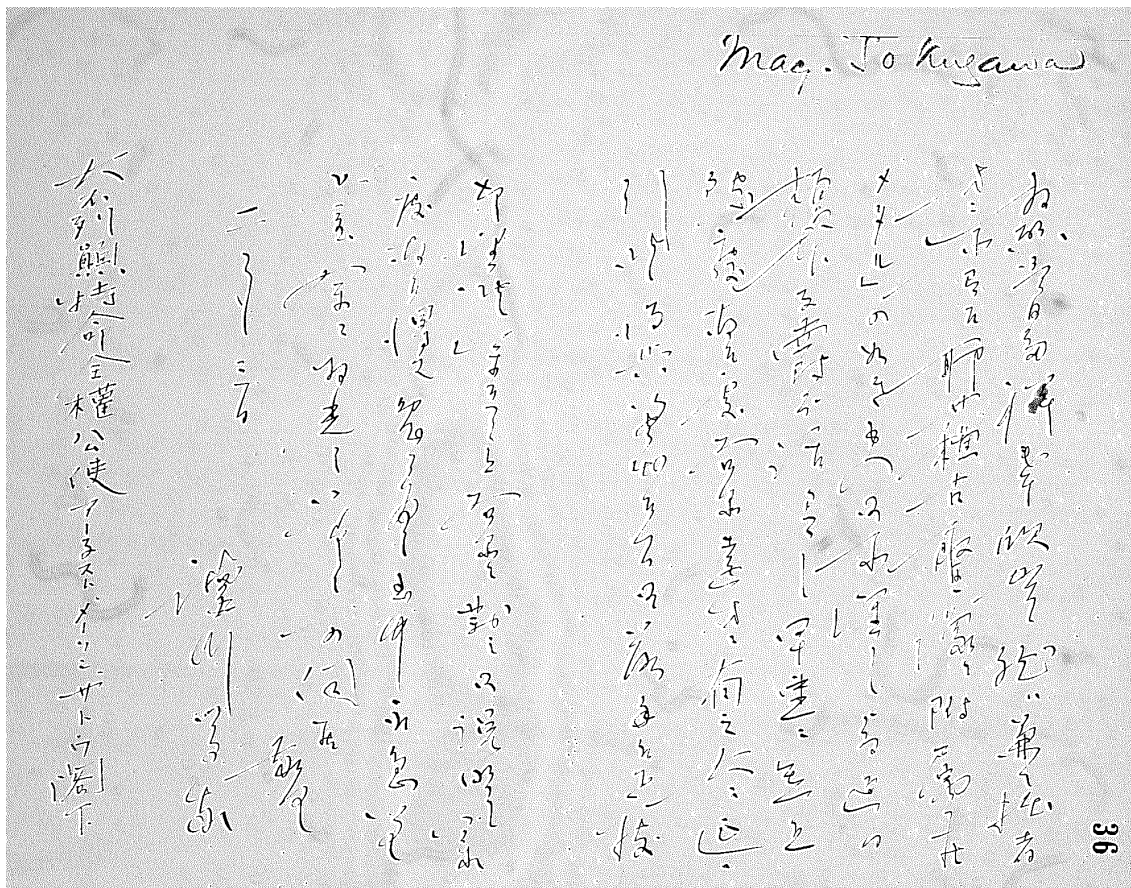
It is very kind of Your Excellency to inform by telegraph about the Prince’s journey to the Governors of Hongkong, Singapore and Ceylon, I will inform it at once the Prince. I am sure he would feel very thankful to you.

Yours very faithfully

Y. Sannomiya

¹⁵ On 8 May 1896 Stone told Satow that the Parcel Post convention had been sent back to England a few days previously. He added that Satow’s note of March 5th to acting Foreign Minister Saionji had not been sent on to the Communications Department and that he would do all he could to oppose American plans for a Pacific cable which was “openly avowed to be aimed at English interests.” (Satow’s diary)

¹⁶ When a correspondent named J.S. Ransome visited Satow on 22 October 1896 wanting to see Okuma, Satow “warned him against Blathwayt’s example.” (Satow’s diary)



p. 36 in file

23. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 37 in file)

Imperial Household

The 7th March 97

My dear Minister,

Many thanks for your kind note; His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi will start from Shimbashi station tomorrow morning at 9.40 o'clock by special arrangement.

Yours very truly

Y. Sannomiya

P.S. I shall be grateful if you let me know any further news concerning Corea. Y.S.

24. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 38 in file)

April 6/97

My dear Sir Ernest

I am sorry to tell you that it is not yet settled wheather [sic.] one of the Imperial families would be sent to England for the celebration of the coming Jubilee. Of course I will not fail to inform you at once at my first discovery as I am closely watching of finding it.

As to your request of getting in one of the late trains at Yokohama station, I have more than once talked about [this matter] with the Chief manager of the Imp[eria]l. Railway, he feels sorry to say that it is at present rather difficult to apply to your wish, but he will try to manage somehow at the changing of timetable which takes place at either the end of this month or in May.

I am sorry I can't give you a satisfactory answer for the above-mentioned affairs.

Yours very faithfully

Y. Sannomiya

25. Sannomiya to Satow (p. 40 in file)

April 10/ 97/

My dear Sir Ernest,

The Emperor & the Empress are going to Kioto about on the 16th inst. & very likely will return here at the end of this month. So I think it might be better if you write to the Foreign Office in asking your farewell audience before their Majesties departure. ¹⁷

Yours very faithfully

Y. Sannomiya

26. Satow to Itō Hirobumi (p. 41 in file)¹⁸

D[ra]ft.

Private

19 April 1898

¹⁷ Satow's farewell audience was on May 5th in Kyoto. He took a night train leaving Tokyo at 6.20 pm on May 4th and arrived in Kyoto at 1.30 pm. He was at the Imperial Palace by 3 pm, and left Kyoto at 8.40 pm on a night train back to Tokyo, returning there by 3.25 pm. He left Japan to attend Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee on May 7th, returning to Japan on November 21st. (Satow's diary)

¹⁸ Satow had already discussed the Kobe leases limitation with Itō on 7 February 1898. "He replied he would look into the matter, and if the order was irregular, the Foreign Minister or Minister of the Interior would have it revoked." (Diary)

Dear Marquis Itō

The attention of H.M. Govt. having been drawn to an Art. in the XIX Cent[ur]y¹⁹ wch. contained among other things a statement that the Jap[ane]se. Auth[orities]: at Kōbe refused to allow leases to be made betw[een]. Japanese & foreigners for more than 25 yrs. contrary to the meaning of the letter addressed by you to the foreign consuls in March 1868 when you were gov[erno]r. of Hiogo, inquired of me when I was at home last summer whether this were the fact. I reported that I was not aware of it, and did not believe it to be the case.

After I returned here in Nov[ember]. I observed that the Kōbe papers made the same assertion, & I consequently instructed H.M. Consul at Kobe [J.C. Hall] to report on the matter. He did so, and it turned out to be a fact,²⁰ he sent me a copy of a notification issued by the Gov[erno]r. of Hiogo in 1884 by w[hi]ch. Jap[ane]se. subjects were forbidden to lease land to foreigners for more than 25 y[ea]rs. I consequently addressed a note to the Min[ister]. for F[oreign]. A[ffairs]. & received a reply, copies of w[hi]ch. I beg to enclose herewith.

It w[ou]ld. not, I think, be difficult to demonstrate that the notification, w[hi]ch. was never communicated by the Jap[ane]se. Gov[ernmen]t. to the Foreign Legations is contrary to the agreement of 1868 and international law. But I do not wish if it can be avoided to enter upon a controversy on the subject. I appeal to you therefore in the hope you may see your way to disposing of the question. It could, it seems to me easily be settled if the Gov[erno]r. of Kōbe were instructed to notify that in making leases Japse. & foreigners c[ou]ld. agree for any term they liked, as long as they complied with the conditions laid down in your letter. Or if there may be some other way of getting rid of the difficulty.

I hope you will excuse my troubling you with this matter. My only object is to assist in removing an existing impression that cannot but have an unpleasant effect if allowed to continue.

I am,
E.S.

¹⁹ Robert Young, 'The case of the foreign residents in Japan', *Nineteenth Century*, no. 42 (August 1897), pp. 305-16.

²⁰ The Governor of Hyogo refused to register a test lease for 50 years. Hall reported this to Satow on 21 January 1898. (PRO 30/33 5/8, No. 73. See Volume One of this book.)

27. Inoue Kaoru to Satow (p. 43 in file)

25 May 1898

Dear Sir Satow [sic.]

Many thanks for your note of this evening. I shall be much pleased to present my photograph to your cousin Miss Satow²¹ with whom I had the pleasure of talking at dinner some time ago.

I fear that it will not reach her before her leaving here because it will not be finished before 7 a.m. the 27th inst. If so then I shall send it to her direct or through you.

Hoping her safe voyage & with kind regard

Believe me,

Yours very truly

K. Inouye

28. Sannomiya to Satow (p.44 in file)

Jan. the 13th 1899

My dear Sir Ernest,

Many thanks for your letter, it seems to me there is some misunderstanding between my messenger and your servant, my yesterday's message is this; Viscount Tanaka, Baron Kawaguchi with their wives and ourselves would be very pleased to come to your dinner as we have already promised, without any prevention from the funeral of our little Princess, as the funeral will be finished in the day light on the 17th.²²

Count Orfini and others came to me yesterday to talk over their parties owing to the death of the Princess, so I thought you might be anxious about the Japanese side on the 17th. I hope you understand my meaning, I have no intention whatever to suggest you to change the day of your entertainment.²³

Yours very faithfully

Y. Sannomiya

²¹ Lisinka Satow (1836-1924), a German cousin of Ernest Satow. Third child of Satow's uncle Joachim Heinrich Christoph Satow. Full name: Elizabeth Catharina Agneta Satow. She arrived in Japan in April 1898. Satow met her on April 10th (diary) and escorted her to the Palace and other social calls until she left Yokohama on May 27th. From May 13th to 16th she was his guest at Lake Chuzenji.

²² Satow went to the Imperial Household on January 14th to write his name in the book of condolences on the death of the Princess.

²³ On January 17th Lord Beresford arrived and in the evening Satow held an official dinner for Yamagata and other cabinet ministers. (Diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

29. Itō Hirobumi to Satow (p. 46 in file)

My dear Sir Ernest Satow,

Might I avail myself of Your Excellency's kind offices in transmitting the accompanying letter to Lord Beresford which I would have sent His Lordship, had I not been prevented from so doing as explained in my last letter?

In so doing Your Excellency will greatly oblige.

Yours very truly

Hirobumi Ito

February 4th 1899

46

My dear Sir Ernest Satow,

Might I avail myself of
Your excellency's kind office
in transmitting the accompanying
letter to Lord Bessford, which
I would have sent. His Lordship,
had I not been prevented from
so doing as explained in my
last letter?

In so doing Your Excellency
will greatly oblige.

Yours very truly

Hirobumi Ito.

February 4th 1899.

33

30. Y. Kashiwabara to Satow (p. 47 in file)

March 23rd.

Sir

I have handed over last evening to you a note of the names of persons sent forward to England to survey judicial affairs etc. Some mistakes have been committed with regard to the names given therein. So I request you to correct that note as follows:

Genji Baba, judge in the Supreme Court

Komaburo[?] Nosaka[?], Chief procurator in the Yokohama local Court

Ken Nakashoji, procurator in the Appeal Court

These three persons are sent specially to England through America with the view of a stay of six months thereabout in England.

Ihio[?] Shimitsu & Genyeki[?] Kawamura named by mistake in the note last evening are sent to France & Italy especially.

I remain

Yours obedient

Y. Kashiwabara

Private Secretary to the Minister of Justice

31. William H. Stone to Satow (p. 49 in file)

Confidential

Awoi cho, 30th March 1899

Dear Sir Ernest,

Thanks for your confidential note of 27th. I should have acknowledged it earlier but have been seedy with severe cold & sore throat which has kept me from attending to anything.

Yes! Scrymser²⁴ told me, some time before he left, that Secretary of State [John] Hay

²⁴ On 25 December 1898 Satow went to Stone and got some information about Scrymser's cable project. James A. Scrymser's plan was for a cable from San Francisco via Hawaii to Japan, to be laid by the Pacific Cable Co. of New York. The Hawaiian government had granted a 20-year monopoly for the cable from Hawaii to Japan but this was revoked when Hawaii was annexed by the U.S. in 1898. On 8 January 1899 Aoki asked Satow about the Pacific Cable and said it was doubtful whether Scrymser could get the funds needed for his project. On December 6th Satow told Aoki that it was unwise for the Japanese Government to commit to Scrymser's company "at the present stage. Of course what they wanted was Japan's adhesion in order to float their company, and there was no reason why Japan should help them in this way to find the necessary capital." On 18 January 1900 Aoki told Satow that Japan had given no assurances to Scrymser, and on March 22nd Satow asked that no arrangements be made with any other company before consulting with Britain. On March 29th Stone told Satow that Scrymser had discussed terms for telegrams, namely 5 dollars a word and 12 cents more to English. (Diary)

had not ratified the Hawaii Cable concession – and had informed him, through Mr. Buck²⁵, that whilst wishing his company every success – he had considered it only proper, annexation having been accepted in the meantime, to leave Congress perfectly free to deal with the matter as might be thought best.

The Report of the Committee on interstate and foreign relations had already made a similar statement a year ago, as to the probability of Japan granting a subsidy of \$200,000 – (American gold - & equal to Yen 400,000). I noticed and pointed out the absurdity to Mr. Scrymser, when he showed me the paper on his first arrival here.

Japan was absolutely ignorant at the time of any idea to bring the cable here – hence the statement was groundless, like many others made in Congress. If annexation had not taken place, or not even [been] mentioned, Japan would have felt more interest and been more willing to help in direct telegraphic communication with Hawaii.

Scrymser failed in making any direct arrangement here, for the present at least, because the United States Government had taken no steps to request Japan to join in arranging for direct communication between the two countries – and did not even say they would look on it with a friendly eye. The American Minister was simply authorised to present Scrymser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, but not to take or accept any responsibility whatever. Mr. Buck complained to me of the unnecessary way in which his hands had been tied – but it was the Custom of his Government!

From the various non-official pourparlers [discussions preliminary to negotiations]: Scrymser's proposals of half rates for Government telegrams – and our own calculations made thereon – together with a certain allowance for increase of traffic, and for the advantage of additional and independent means of communication, the Department would probably have been willing to arrange for an annual subsidy, for a term of say 20 years, of something like \$75,000 (say Yen 150,000) in payment of Govt telegrams. – The subsidy then to cease – but the half rates to continue “for all time” as Scrymser put it. Meantime the whole thing is in nubibus [“in the clouds”, vague and uncertain].

Another Coy. “New Jersey” was also talked of some time ago – but as the Eastern Coy – Sir John Pender²⁶ – and others, were interested in it Japan would refuse any dealings – as it

²⁵ Alfred E. Buck was U.S. Minister to Japan from July 1897. He died ‘en poste’ in December 1902.

²⁶ Sir John Pender (1816-1896) founded 32 telegraph companies.

On 16 May 1896 Satow told Itō Hirobumi the outline of a British plan which was a cable from Vancouver to Australia via Fanning Island from where the Northern and Eastern Companies would lay a cable to Hawaii and Japan. Itō said “nothing had yet been promised to anyone.” On 19 February 1897 Satow was asked by Charles V. Sale of Yokohama and T. Smith of W.T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

would virtually have maintained the existing monopoly – and we want an opposition to enable us to reduce the existing high rates.

Yours very sincerely

Wm. H. Stone

32. Satow to Foreign Minister Aoki (p. 53 in file)

Copy

B.L. [British Legation]

April 6. 1899

Private

Dear Visct. Aoki,

In the enclosed extracts from the Regns. applying to tenders, persons who desire to compete in Art 69 seems to mean persons under Japanese jurisdiction, so that after the revised treaty comes into operation [in July 1899], it w[ou]ld. I presume include foreigners resident in this country.

Art. 1 para 1 of the Dept. of Communications Regn. No 28, seems to imply that no foreign firm or individual, tho' otherwise qualified, c[ou]ld. tender until 2 yrs. have expired fr. the time when, under the operation of the Revised Treaties, he begins to pay the requisite am[oun]t of taxes.

I hope it is not troubling you too much if I ask whether it may not be possible to make some change in this order so as to admit foreign firms and individuals of good standing to tender in their own name for govt. contracts.

y.v.t.

E.S.

Extracts enclosed (p. 54 in file, handwritten)

Financial Law (Kwaikei Hō)

Art. 69

of London whether the Japanese Government might grant a subsidy for laying a cable from Japan to Hawaii. Satow thought it unlikely unless to a Japanese company, but advised them to present a letter of introduction to W.H. Stone "who was the confidential adviser, to whom any proposal of that kind would be referred." On 29 March 1900 Stone told Satow that Japan's agreement with the Great Northern and Eastern Extension Co. was for ten years and expired at the end of December 1902. Stone added that he did not believe that the Fanning Island route was feasible because of the enormous distance and cost of the cable. (Diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

Persons [margin note: “This apparently means persons under Japanese jurisdiction”] who desire to compete for or to contract for works or the supply of articles must prove that they have been engaged in such works or the supply of such articles for two years previously.

The Minister in charge of a Department may when the nature of the works or articles to be supplied requires it, determine by a special departmental order the qualifications to be required of competitors other than that stated in the preceding paragraph.

Department of Communications. Regn. No 28

Persons desirous of competing for the supply of foreign articles for government railways under the management of the Dept. of Communications must in addition to the qualifications specified in para 1 of Art. 69 of the Financial Regulations possess the qualifications mentioned in the present Order. (N.B. Where the character of the articles tendered for warrants it, the amount may be lessened. 24 Dec. 1886. Nomura Yasushi Min. of Communications)

Art. 1. Para. 1

For tender for goods of a value less than 50,000 yen, the continuous payment during 2 years of not less than 20 yen of direct national taxes.

Para. 2

For tender for goods of a value less than 200,000 yen, the continuous payment during 2 years of not less than 50 yen of direct national taxes.

Para. 3

For tender for goods of a value over 250,000 yen, the continuous payment during 2 years of not less than 100 yen of direct national taxes.

This would imply that no foreign firm or individual, tho' otherwise qualified, could tender until two years have expired from the time when under the operation of the Revised Treaties he begins to pay the requisite amount of taxes.

33. Head of Taxation Bureau Megata Tanetarō to Satow (p. 55 in file)

July 24 1899

My dear Sir Ernest Satow

I am in receipt of your kind note and I take pleasure in saying that I am arranging the

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

matter provisionally this time. I waited for Mr. Mitchell last Saturday but did not see him.²⁷

I am

Very respectfully yours

T. Megata

34. Telegram from Sannomiya with Satow's reply (p. 57 in file)

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS. (Delivery Form)	
Station <u>Chugushi</u> Office No. <u>1</u>	Address <u>Sir Ernest Satow</u>
Received Time <u>2.15 pm</u> Date <u>17-8-</u> 18 <u>99</u>	<u>Chugushi Nikko</u>
By <u>S. Hiroha</u>	<u>Tochigiken</u>
Class <u>M</u> Original Office <u>Shinagawa</u>	Remarks
No. <u>3</u> Words <u>25</u>	
Date <u>17-8-</u> 18 <u>99</u> Time <u>2.10 pm</u>	
<p>Kindly tell me if it is the intention of the Admiral to visit Tokio again later in this year.</p> <p><u>Baron Sannomiya, Takadawa, Tokio</u></p> <p><u>4.30 pm. Admiral Seymour will not be in Tokio again this year.</u></p> <p><u>Satow.</u></p>	

39 57

17-8-1899

2.10 pm.

²⁷ On 22 July 1899 W.F. Mitchell came to Satow about a problem he had experienced getting permission to land kerosene at his new tanks at Noda near Hiōgo. Satow promised to write personally to Megata. "We agreed however that Legation interference was not desirable in general, and that the Japanese were very sensitive to it." (Diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

Kindly tell me if it is the intention of the Admiral to visit Tokio again later in this year.
Baron Sannomiya, Takanawa, Tokio

4.50 pm.

Admiral Seymour will not be in Tokio again this year.

Satow

35. Telegram from Sannomiya (p. 58 in file)

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS. (Delivery Form)	
Station <u>Chugushi</u> Office No. <u>3</u>	Address <u>Sir Ernest Satow</u>
Received Time <u>3.9/11.11</u> Date <u>18-8-</u> 18 <u>99</u>	<u>Thupenji</u>
By <u>S. Hiroha</u>	<u>Nikko</u>
	<u>Lochigiken</u>
Class <u>7</u> Original Office <u>Tokyo</u>	Remarks
No. <u>8</u> Words <u>33</u>	
Date <u>18-8-</u> 18 <u>99</u> Time <u>2.45 pm</u>	
<p>All right please send application for admirals audience to foreign office just one day before his arrival thanks for your letter of the 12th about mourning</p> <p>Sannomiya</p>	

18-8-99

All right please send application for admirals audience to foreign office just one day before his arrival thanks for your letter of the 12th about mourning
Sannomiya

36. Handwritten Draft of a letter from Satow (p. 59 in file)²⁸

Mr R.J. Kirby of No. 8 Tsukiji has been called on by the Tokio Ku Yakusho [ward office] to pay House Tax.

He informed the officials that he understood the question of the liability of foreigners to pay this tax was the subject of diplomatic negotiation, and asked to be allowed to refrain from paying the tax until the question was decided between the two governments.

They replied that as some persons had already paid, and they had instructions to collect, he must pay, failing which they have the right to sell his property. They said however that in the event of its being decided that the tax is not a proper one they would refund him the money.

This proceeding on the part of the Tokio Ku Yakusho does not appear to be in accordance with the understanding arrived at between the Foreign Department and Her Majesty's Legation that harsh measures would not be resorted to pending the settlement of this question.

H.M. Legation

Tokio

January 11 1900

37. Aoki to Satow (p. 61 in file)

Foreign Office

Feb. 28 1900.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I am very pleased to hear of the happy news of the unconditional surrender of Gen. Cronje and I sincerely trust that this will lead to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion of the South African War.

Yours very truly

Aoki

²⁸ This is probably the draft of a letter to Foreign Minister Aoki. On 11 January 1900 Satow spoke to Aoki about Richard Kirby's house tax. "Told him the Kuyakusho had threatened to sell him up, which seemed strange after his [Aoki's] Note promising British Subjects would not be pressed to pay. He said instructions to that effect had certainly been sent to Yokohama, but perhaps some oversight had occurred in Tokio. Inquiry should be made. Kirby could be at his ease." (Diary) Kirby worked for Okura & Co.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Japanese authorities. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/11. September 1895-March 1900)

38. Satow to Aoki (p. 62 in file)

Her Britannic Majesty's Minister presents his compliments to the Imperial Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and begs that he may be informed what is the usual practice as to the exchange of visits between commanding officers of foreign squadrons and single men-of-war, and the Principal Civil Authorities at the open ports.

He desires also to learn to what salutes the Principal Civil Authorities are considered to be entitled on visiting a foreign man-of-war.

Tokio

~~12 October 1899~~

March 22. 1900.

(given on the above date to Visct. Aoki. E.S.)

[End of file]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo. (Aug 1895-April 1900)

All letters in this file are handwritten.

1. Belgian Minister Albert d'Anethan to Satow [p.2 in file]

Tokio le 29 août 95

Mon cher collègue,

Je viens d'apprendre au club que vous êtes arrivé a Tokio. Je me félicite de la coïncidence de notre visite dans cet enfer de chaleur en espérant, toutefois, que le motif qui vous amène a Tokio n'est pas celui qui m'a forcé de quitter la fraîcheur de Miyanoshita.

Le Dr. Baelz vient me voir demain – vendredi – a 4 heures p.m.

Le reste [?] de mon temps est libre, mais je me ferai un scrupule d'aller vous déranger pendant les heures où la siesta apporte le repos réparateur après une matinée de travail. Vous ne retournez pas, cependant, j'espère, au beau lac, sur lequel vous ne pouvez pas plus que sur celui de Lamartine.

Jeter l'ancre un seul jour sans que j'aie eu le plaisir de vous rencontrer.

Croyez à mes sentiments aussi distingués que dévoués.

d'Anethan

2. D'Anethan to Satow [p.4 in file]

Miyanoshita

Sept. 10th 95

Private

My dear colleague

We intend to go back to Tokyo next Sunday & hope to have the pleasure of seeing you soon. You'll have heard that our colleagues of the Far East Triplice [Russia, Germany & France] are in Tokyo to press the Japanese to evacuate Liaotung.

Hirovo was here for a month. He is thinking of going to Vladivostock at the end of the month & says he wishes to go home on leave in November.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

d'Anethan

I have heard from a very reliable source that more than 30000 Japanese have died in Formosa of malaria

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

& dissentry [dysentery?]. They have killed between ten and 12,000 Hakkas, including women and children.

All the Chinese that can do it leave Formosa principally on account of the prohibition of smoking opium & the obligation to cut off their pigtales.

3. Harmand to Satow [p. 6 in file]

Personelle

Tokyo, 9 novembre 95

Mon cher collègue

D'après les renseignements dont je vous ai parlé, la Convention pour la rétrocession de la presqu'île de Liao-tung, qui a été signée hier, se composerait de 4 articles.

Art. Ier – consacrant l'acte de retrocession

II – stipulant la somme de 30 millions de taëls, et l'évacuation après un délai de 3 mois a partir du paiement de cette somme. (Elle sera versée dans quelques jours intégralement.)

Art III - garantit armistice pour les Chinois qui se sont compromis pendant la guerre avec les Japonais.

Art. IV – de pure forme, concerne l'échange des ratifications.

Les négociations pour le traité de commerce vont être poussées aussi activement que possible entre M. Hayashi & Li Hung Chang. Rédigé sur le type de tous les traités conclus entre la Chine & nos puissances, il ne contiendrait rien qui ne soit déjà dans l'Art. VI du traité de Shimonoseki.

Je suis heureux que ces informations puissent vous être utiles & je vous prie d'agréer, mon cher Collègue, l'assurance de mes sentiments tant dévoués.

J. Harmand

4. Von Treutler to Satow [p.8 in file]

Deutsche Gesandtschaft

Tokio

Tuesday

Dear Sir Ernest

Baron Gutschmid asked me to tell you that he does not take any notice whatever about the death of the Korean Queen. He wishes not to meddle at all in Korean affairs and so he does not give any reply upon the announcement he received to-day.

Believe me, dear Sir Ernest, to be

Yours

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

Very sincerely

Treutler

5. Spanish Minister Luis de la Barrera to Satow [p.10 in file]

[recd. 16 Sept. ansd. 18 Sept.]

Yokohama United Club, No. 5 Bund

5 Septbre 96

A Su Excelencia

Sir Ernest Satow

Mi distinguido amigo y Colega: Buena[?] emplir la jucanesa que hica a Usted de visitarle en esa y me gregraraba a emprender al viage con objeto tambien de enablarle respecto a nos asuntos de Formosa, a que se refieren las comunicaciones que hubo Usted la bandad de enviarme, frero asuntos que reclaman un presencia aqui en estos momentos, me impuden muy a gresar mio, ir ahora a verde. [etc.]

6. Edwin Dun to Satow [p. 12 in file]

United States Legation, Tokio

April 21, 1897

My dear Colleague,

Yesterday Mr. [J.H.] Gubbins very kindly brought me six copies of the "Regulations respecting Patents, Trade Marks and Designs," translated in your Legation. I beg that both you and Mr. Gubbins will accept my sincere thanks for your kindness in this matter.

The translation furnishes exact and authoritative information in regard to the Regulations that would have been extremely difficult if not impossible for me to have obtained but for your courtesy.

I shall send two copies of it to Washington where, I m sure, it will be highly valued and appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Edwin Dun

7. U.S. Minister A.E. Buck to Satow [p.13 in file]

United States Legation, Tokio

March 12, 1898

HE Sir Ernest Satow

My Dear Colleague,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

I take the liberty to introduce to you Rev. Mr. Loomis¹ who desires to consult you on the matter of presenting a Bible to the Empress on behalf of the Bible Society. The book has been made specially for that purpose. As the Society represents the English as well as the American people, it seems to me that if we should take any part in the presentation it should be jointly.

Regretting that I cannot call upon you with Mr. Loomis I am

Very truly yours A.E. Buck

[Note: On the back of this letter Satow has written a copy of a letter to Rev. Loomis.]

British Legation

14 March 1898

Dear Sir,

I took an opportunity of conversing with Mr. Buck today with respect to the subject we discussed on Saturday last.

The United States Minister agrees with me in thinking it would be better if the Agents of the Bible Societies carried out the proposed delivery to Marquis Itō of the Bible which the Societies are presenting to the Emperor without our taking any part in the ceremony.

I am Dear Sir

Yours Faithfully

(signed) Ernest Satow

8. Buck to Satow [p.15 in file]

United States Legation, Tokio

April 15th 1898

My Dear Colleague,

Referring to the "Sands" case² and our conversation on last Tuesday in which you expressed a purpose to hand to the Minister for Foreign Affairs a copy [of] a despatch from your Consul at Nagasaki after I had formally submitted the case, I write to say that on last Saturday I presented the matter in a note to Baron Nishi [Nishi]. Thinking that perhaps you would call on the Baron today, and as I must be in Yokohama this p.m. and shall be unable to see you, you should know of what I have done in the matter, I take the liberty of giving you this information as above.

¹ The Presbyterian Reverend Henry Loomis called on Satow on 12 March 1898 with this note from Buck. Satow said he would think about the request, but seems to have been unwilling. (Diary)

² William F. Sands, Secretary of the U.S. legation in Tokyo was attacked by Japanese tradesmen on New Year's Day 1898 in Nagasaki. He fled to Longford's house. His attempt to sue for assault was unsuccessful. (See Ruxton, 2003, p. 245)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

Very Sincerely yours

A.E. Buck

Satow's answer (copy written on letter)

Ans- April 16/98

My dear Coll.,

In answer to your note of yesterday and in accordance with my promise, I have the pleasure of telling you that I yesterday handed to Baron Nishi unofficially for his information a copy of Mr. Longford's Report on the "Sands" case. I remarked that I had heard you had officially addressed him on the subject, & that the information contained in Mr. Longford's report might be useful to him, but I did not tell him that I gave him the document in consequence of an agreement betw. us. He will no doubt have divined that there had been communication betw. us for the purpose.

y.v.t. E.S.

9. Austro-Hungarian Minister Christoph Wydenbruck to Satow [p.17 in file]

Private Sept. 25, 1898

Dear Sir Ernest,

I noticed in the "Japan Times" of a few days ago the statement that an arrangement had been concluded between H.M.'s Government and the Government of Japan with regard to reciprocity in the question of Court mourning. May I, without indiscretion, ask You whether this is correct? I have been in poor health lately and am not quite well yet, else I should have called upon you in person.

With many thanks in advance for any information you may be able to give me on the above subject, I remain,

dear Sir Ernest

very truly yours

C. Wydenbruck

Satow's answer (copy on letter):

Private

Dear C.W.

I have looked at the article in the "Japan Times" of the 17th inst. & find it uses the expression "a definite stipulation was afterwards formulated & agreed to" a propos of the arrangement abt. Court mourning with Spain. Such wording seems to me inapplicable to what we did. In consequence of the representations I made at home, instructions were sent out here last summer that the Court of St. James would observe mourning for the Head of the State. On my return in Nov. last I communicated this fact

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

semi-officially in writing to the Min. of the Imp. Household & verbally to the Min. for F.A.

The Japse. Govt. & Court were I was informed much pleased & the former telegd. to the Japse. Min. in London to inform the Engl. Court that the Japse. Court wld. reciprocate.

The Jap. Mail's recent article on this subject was wholly unjustifiable, & if the Editor were in the same independent position as other Engl. journalists in this country, I shld. feel bound to apologize to you for him.

Sorry etc. to hear of illness.

y.v.t.

E.S.

10. Wydenbruck answers Satow [p. 19 in file]

Private

Tokio, Sept. 26. 1898.

Dear Sir Ernest,

Many thanks for your letters just received, and the information contained therein ; I need not say that I shall treat it as confidential.

I am very glad to see that you judge the article in the "Mail" as I think it ought to be judged. I thought that the editor's coming forward with it less than a week after the terrible catastrophe showed a lamentable want of tact and good breeding. As you rightly observe the man is not independent ; still I think even his Japanese masters must have considered the article in question as overshooting the mark and not likely to foster the time-honoured conception of Japanese politeness.

Believe me,

Very truly yours,

C. Wydenbruck

11. Luis de la Barrera to Satow [p. 21 in file]

[ans. 20/9/98 giving this information]

Legacion de España

Tokio

Son Excellence Sir Ernest Mason Satow

Ministre Plenipotentiaire de la Grande Bretagne

Mon cher collègue

En profitant de votre aimable condescendance et vous priant de vouloir bien me donner une réponse je

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

me permets de vous envoyer ci joint un questionnaire relative au Service Consulaire d'Angleterre au Japon avec mes remerciements anticipés les plus sincères.

Veuillez agréer Monsieur le Ministre et cher collègue, les assurances de ma haute consideration et de mes meilleurs sentiments.

Luis de la Barrera

Tokio, le 17 octobre 1898

Questionnaire relatif à l'organisation du Service Consulaire d'Angleterre au Japon

Quels sont les ports où il existe un Consul de carrière

Classe et traitement de chaque Consul envoyé

Employés à ses ordres et traitement de ces employés.

Si les Consuls ont des interprètes.

Quels sont les Consuls qui ont des interprètes de carrière et traitement des ceux-ci

Quels sont les Consuls qui ont des interprètes indigènes et traitement des ceux-ci

Quels sont les ports où il y a des Consuls ou Agents Consulaires honoraires et si ces fonctionnaires touchent une partie de la recaudation ou bien s'ils sont retribués autrement

Quelles sont les relations que concernant la subordination sur les différents Consuls par rapport à la Legation ou au Consulat General, c'est-à-dire de quelles des deux ils dependent directement.

12. D'Anethan to Satow [p. 25 in file]

Tuesday

Nov. 8th 1898

My dear Satow,

I return, with many thanks, the correspondence concerning the Swiss consular lot. It seems also to me that the transfer of the said lot after its surrender by the Swiss Consul Général – does not infringe the conventions of 1864 & 1866.

Therefore I shall write to de Flesch that in his quality as acting Belgian Consul he must not interfere in this matter.

Believe me

Yours very truly

d'Anethan

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

13. Ye Ha Yung to Satow [p. 27 in file]

Korean Legation

Tokio

Dec. 8th 1898

My dear Colleague

I was pleased to get your letter but I am sorry that I was not at home when you came to me this afternoon. I should like very much to do so, to carry your letter or anything else to your Chargé d’Affaires at Seoul what you asked me take charge of the enclosed for Mr. Jordan.³

Many thanks for your kind regards to me, and I hope will have a pleasant all the time, and that we may look forward to the pleasure of seeing you again before long at anywhere.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Ye Ha Yung

To H.E. Sir Ernest Satow

14. Buck to Satow [p. 29 in file]

United States Legation

Tokio

Dec. 27/98

My Dear Colleague

Thanks for your note. Your suggestion is a good one & I will speak to the Minister of State as you guess[?], at the first opportunity or at such time as you think best. Of course I could not enter into any negotiations without authority from Washington, but [] to bring the matter to the attention of Yamagata.

Sincerely

A.E. Buck

15. Satow replies to Buck [p. 30 in file]

Copy

Tokio

29/12/98

³ See PRO 30/33 6/8, No. 29, Satow to Jordan. Satow praises Ye Ha-yung’s good sense and tact.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

(To Col. Buck)

My dear Colleague,

Dr. Greene⁴ has just sent me a copy of his letter to you, [regarding the] desirability of the Japse. Govt. making certain concessions to the U.S.A. & G.B. in connexion with the administration of the Criminal Law after the new Treaties come into operation.

The standing instructions I have from home wld. justify me in taking action without delay, but I shld. not like to move in the matter before you are ready, & therefore shld. be much obliged if you wld. tell me whether you wld. find it necessary to refer first to Washington.

A Japse. friend of mine tells me that there is no small apprehension among members of the Govt. in regard to the troubles wch. the new Treaties will bring upon them, & suggests that we shld. do well to mention this particular matter direct to Yamagata, not by way of negotiation, but as a piece of friendly advice. The idea seems to me a good one.

y.v.t.

E.S.

16. Buck to Satow [p. 32 in file]

United States Legation

Tokio

Jan. 19. 1899.

My Dear Colleague,

Please accept thanks for the copy of your despatch to Lord Salisbury which you have kindly sent me.⁵

In respect to your suggestion about letting the authorities at San Francisco know this Senat[or?] Charles Reonful[?] is to arrive by the America Maru, that he may have customs' facilities given to him, I desire to say that I shall have to cable to the Sec'y of State, asking that the necessary instructions be given to the authorities in San Francisco, since no mail leaves for the United States before the America Maru sails, as I purpose to do with pleasure.

Very Sincerely Yours

A.E. Buck

⁴ See Satow's diary for 10 December 1898. Dr. Daniel C. Greene, a U.S. missionary, visited Satow to "suggest desirability of inducing Japse. Govt. to agree that Consuls should have access to persons arrested and to be present at preliminary examination." Satow approved this suggestion and advised Greene to put it in writing. See also the diary for 12 January 1899 when Satow raised the matter with Yamagata who "received it in a very friendly manner."

⁵ Probably despatch no. 213 of 29 December 1898, mentioned in Satow's diary for 12 January 1899. It included a copy of Dr. Greene's letter.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

17. Buck to Satow [p.33 in file]

United States Legation

Tokio

Jan. 20/99

My Dear Colleague

The bearer, Ahn Kyeng Su,⁶ a Corean, has been introduced to me by Mr. Morse of Yokohama, as a person worthy of some consideration and, when requested, I gave him this note to you. He seems to have some scheme of obtaining a concert of actions by our governments and others in respect to a better & [more] stable government of Corea, and thinking that it may not be disagreeable to you to hear his story I took the liberty of giving him this note.

Very Sincerely Yours

A.E. Buck

18. Secretary Joseph R. Herod to Satow [p. 34 in file]

United States Legation

Tokio

June 29/99

My dear Sir Ernest

The little book you speak of I lent some time ago to Hasegawa who translated the Japanese Patent Laws for the Patent Office. Today on receiving your note I sent for it and the messenger has just returned saying Hasegawa is out and that the assistants at his office know nothing of the book. Just as soon as I can lay hands on it I shall send it on to you. In regard to the questions: The United States adhered to the Convention of 1883 in May 1887 (See U.S. For. Relations, 1887, Correspondence with Switzerland.) To my mind the citizen or subject of one of the nations party to the Convention may make his original application anywhere. The real question involved is novelty and that alone.

It is certain that a British subject – or living in England or any place in fact – may apply for and obtain an American patent.

Sincerely yours

Joseph R. Herod

⁶ On 25 January 1899 Satow asked Aoki about An Kyöngsu. He said An, the president of the Korean independence association, was unreliable. Satow told Aoki that An wanted him to ask J.N. Jordan to advise the King to come to terms with the reformers, and that he had promised to send Jordan any message he might write. See also Jordan to Satow, PRO 30/33 6/8, no. 32, 15 February 1899.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Foreign representatives in Tokyo.
(Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/12. August 1895 - April 1900)

For an excellent discussion of “novelty” see U.S. Foreign Relations, 1892, Correspondence with Germany.

19. Minister Jules Harmand to Satow [p. 36 in file]

Légation de la République Française au Japon

Tokyo, le 23 Février 1900

Mon Cher Collègue

J'avais transmis par l'entremise de M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères à Paris à la Société Nationale d'acclimatation de France le compte-rendu de la séance de la Société Asiatique de Tokyo au cours de laquelle Votre Excellence avait fourni de nombreuses indications sur la culture du bambou au Japon.⁷

Dans sa séance de rentrée tenue au mois de Décembre dernier, la Société d'acclimatation a pris connaissance de ce document et a décidé, vu son importance d'en faire paraître la traduction dans le bulletin qu'elle publie périodiquement.

Je m'empresse de faire part de cette décision à Votre Excellence.

Agréez, Mon cher Collègue, la nouvelle assurance de ma haute considération.

J. Harmand

20. Minister Jules Harmand to Satow [p. 38 in file]

Légation de la République Française au Japon

Tokyo, le 6 avril 1900

Le Ministre de France, apprenant l'attentat commis sur la personne du Prince de Galles, a l'honneur d'adresser à S. Exc. le Ministre d'Angleterre l'expression de la surprise indignée, en même temps que ses félicitations à l'adresse de Son Alt[esse] Royale, si heureusement préservée.⁸

[End of file]

⁷ Satow was keenly interested in bamboos. They appear frequently in his diary for 1895-1900. He also read a paper on bamboos at the British Legation to the Asiatic Society of Japan on 21 June 1899. (Diary) 'The Cultivation of Bamboos in Japan' by Katayama Naoto was translated by Satow and published in the *Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan*, volume 27, part 2, 1899.

⁸ An anarchist named Jean-Baptiste Sipido shot at the Prince of Wales on 4 April 1900 when he was in Belgium for the birthday celebrations of the King of Belgium. It was a protest over the Boer War. (Wikipedia)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (September 1895-April 1897)

1. D. Jackson to Satow

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Yokohama 27th Sept. 1895

Dear Sir Ernest

Thank you very much for your letter of today and for the trouble you have taken to arrange an interview for me with the Minister President Marquis Ito. Wednesday the 2nd October will be a suitable day to me for the appointment and if agreeable to the Marquis I shall be pleased to wait upon him with my Accountant at 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day.

Will you kindly tell me where we should call?

Yours sincerely

D. W.[?] Jackson ¹

2. W.M.H. Kirkwood to Satow

4.10.95

My dear Satow

I enclose the "Bimetallist" of August & a page of the Times of the 20th of that month.

In the former I would ask you to especially direct your attention to pages 215, 216, 222, 223, 224, 227-231, and appendix vii-x.

In the latter there is an excellent letter from the Chairman of the Bimetallic League in reply to one from Sir Bertram Currie.

I try my best to study both sides of the question, and from all the arguments I have seen advanced it seems to me that the Bimetallists have by far the best of it.

The Monometallists or those in favor of a Gold Standard cannot even rely on a satisfactory past experience –they cannot even say it has worked well so why should we change an argument which appeals to so many who will not take the trouble to study any proposed change – because it never in fact worked at all until after 1873[1893?] and after that it cannot be said to have worked well.

Yours sincerely

Montague Kirkwood

¹ See Satow to Ito, PRO 30/33 6/11, no. 1, 28/9/95.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

4th Oct. I cannot help regarding this question as the most interesting both on its intrinsic merits and its wide reaching consequences that now presents itself for study for statesmen as well as economists.

3. D. Jackson to Satow

Confidential

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Yokohama 5th Oct. 1895

Dear Sir Ernest

I have to thank you for your letter of the 30th September. The interview accorded us by the Minister President Marquis Ito was all I could have wished. Unfortunately however matters have not yet reached the stage at which the services of the Bank could be availed of, the question whether the payment of the indemnity shall be in gold or silver, and if in gold, the time for settling the exchange still being at China's option. These points will I presume have to be settled between now and the 8th of next month, and I shall feel much indebted to you, if you can see your way, in the cause of British Finance, to watch the interests of our Bank and advise me what further steps I should take, or when it would be expedient to approach the Premier again, with the view of getting the services of this Bank enlisted by the Japanese Government for the purpose of assisting in bringing to Japan any portion of the indemnity that may have to be remitted here from England or any foreign country.

Again thanking you for all the trouble you have already taken for us.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

D.W. Jackson

4. John Milne to Satow (p. 6 in file)

Shide Hill House,

Newport. I.W. [Isle of Wight]

Oct 6 1895

My dear Satow

I was extremely pleased to get yours of Aug 23rd which arrived just after the mail for San Francisco, (by which I wrote Bylandt and Tr[] had gone. You ask what you can do for me. I wish I could tell you, for I sadly want somebody to do something, for I do not seem to be able to do much for myself. A thousand yen which I have not yet got and a Fourth Class decoration is not very much. Part of my bad luck came from the supposed actions of the Admiral, - anyhow there was sufficient incitement given by

newspapers to account for all that happened at my establishment. Part also was owing to my own attitude – I wasn't friendly enough with some of the newspaper people. I couldn't join in censuring an English admiral at the Club and I had not sense enough to keep away. One of my worst bits of business for myself was refusing the Japanese Authorities the option of buying [] Charts, which our own Admiralty have taken with many thanks but without any substantial recognition to this author. They may send him copies to care of the Legation. After making a man's working tools public property and taking the work of a lifetime they are asking for further information I hold.

I have asked Admiral Wharton of the Hydrographic & Sir [] Salmon Cmd. Chief at Portsmouth who do not wish to see any more 'Rattlers' or 'Iron Dukes' on the rocks to see if they could not bring to the notice that they would get much if they offered inducements.

Since I commenced yours of Sept. 25th and a notice that I am to have a third order of the RS [Rising Sun]. In all this documents relating to vases etc. they gave me they will have it that I served them for more than 19 years (ju kiyu nen) when I began on July 3rd, 1875 & finished July 3rd 1895 by contract, & worked for them for some months before. Perhaps 20 years makes a difference in pension allowance. I should much like to know whether that is so. You must feel pleased at seeing the old place again. Hope that some day or other I may do the same. The BA committee who have given the £80 to go on with seem to think that the Seismology work must be done privately by corresponding to find willing observers.

I have got a paper on bridges for the Inst. C.E., one for the R.G.S. & give two Xmas lectures to children at the Society of Arts. The Admiralty are trying one of my Vibration Recorders on a Torpedo Boat and I am observing tremors & other motions at Shide. [W.G.] Aston likes Devon so much that he is building a house there. La[] has written me asking self & wife to call. Tell the Naval men to see to their visitors on board & to where these men go ashore. Am getting some good notes about the Bering Sea question.

Shall be glad when I get some work to do.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

John Milne

5. R. L. Thomson to Satow (p. 10 in file)

Imperial Hotel

Tokio, Japan

10th October 1895

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Dear Sir Ernest Satow:

If tomorrow afternoon will be soon enough to let you know when I can start for Peking, I think I shall be able to say definitely then. Today I am only able to say that I purpose leaving here early next week – but I cannot be sure if it will not be towards the end of the week. However, I may be able to give you a more satisfactory answer this afternoon, and I will send you a note.

I shall be only too glad to be of any service I can in taking a “Bag” (or “cover”) to Peking if the time of my departure meets your requirements.

Yours very truly,

R.L. Thomson

I am most anxious to get away – but I have one point I must try to settle here first.

6. R.L.Thomson to Satow (p. 12 in file)

Imperial Hotel, Tokio, Japan

Friday Evening

Dear Sir Ernest Satow:

I purpose leaving for China from Kobe on Wednesday next, and failing this I leave Yokohama tomorrow week. I know I am running “open navigation” in North China very close by this delay; but I am not free here yet.

The Japanese are a good deal preoccupied by the dangerous turn things seem to be taking in Korea. The fear is that the “Internal” Korean question may become an “External” one. It is certainly a pity that Japan has allowed the war in Formosa to drag on so long; this weakens their hand very much just now. And the Russians know it!

Yours very truly,

R.L. Thomson

7. R. L. Thomson to Satow (p. 14 in file)

Wednesday

Dear Sir Ernest Satow:

I am sorry I cannot get up to the Legation this morning as I had hoped to do. Pray excuse me.

If I do not see you before Friday next I beg to remind you that I will call at the Legation at 3 p.m. on that day.

What weather for cricket!

Yours very truly

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

R.L. Thomson

8. R.L. Thomson to Satow (p. 15 in file)

Friday 8.45 a.m.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow:

Taking advantage of what you were good enough to say in your last note, I will call upon you this morning between 10 & 11 o'clock. I hope this will suit you equally well with 3 p.m. ²

I find I must, if possible, be in Yokohama this afternoon before the Banks close, my Steamer leaving tomorrow morning before they open.

One cannot, unfortunately, move about without money!

Yours very truly

R.L. Thomson

9. Thomson to Satow (p. 16 in file)

25th October 1895

Shanghai Club [embossed notepaper]

Dear Sir Ernest Satow:

I duly delivered the bag of Despatches to Jamieson. I go on tomorrow night to Tientsin. I may either wait at Tientsin until Sir N. O'Connor comes down there, or go on to Peking if I am quite sure to find him at the latter place. It would never do to miss Sir N. on the way!

There is no reliable news here, and it is no use troubling you with rumours, or, as they are called here, "Bunders".

I will duly deliver (or have delivered) your letter to Sir N. O'C. either at Tientsin or at Peking, and I will advise you when I have done so.

With best regards,

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

R.L. Thomson

10. Bishop Henry Evington to Satow (p. 17 in file)

Bishop's Lodge,

² Thomson called on Satow on 18 October 1895. Satow gave him "a packet of despatches for O'Connor and a bag for Jamieson containing the Cypher E." They also discussed the idea of a British protectorate over Siam. (Diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

9, Deshima, Nagasaki

6 Nov. 1895

Dear Sir Ernest,

Thank you exceedingly for your kind note of the 2nd inst. [see PRO 30/33 14/9] & for the letters of Introduction. I did not feel that there was any other course open for me than to write to you officially.

Since I applied to you for the letters of introduction I have had the opportunity of seeing Bishop Bickersteth & also Dr. Mackay who has been so successful in work amongst the people of the North of Formosa. My own opinion had been that it would be better to wait until the Japanese had had time to get their various schemes for the Government of the Island into operation, but the Bishops at the first pressed me to go this year, I think under the impression that there would be a large influx of Japanese at once & that many of our Xtians would need pastoral care. I have now decided to postpone my visit. Dr. Mackay tells me that he had before the war work in every town & village in the North and it has been set on foot almost without European help. Further from statistics I learn that there were in 1892 six times as many Christians in proportion to the population there are in Kiūshiu.

I shall therefore watch for an opportunity of going in the spring.

Again thanking you for your kind expression of sympathy in our work for Christ.

I remain very faithfully yours

Henry Evington Bishop

11. Unknown to Satow (p. 19 in file)

November 11. 95

Buckingham

Old Shoreham

Sussex

Dear Satow,

I have much pleasure in introducing to you the bearer of this letter my friend Mr. Raymond Blathwayt, who will tell you his object for visiting Japan. I shall be extremely grateful for any assistance you can render him.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

[name illegible]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

12. James P. Mollison to Satow (p. 20 in file)

Mollison & Co.

Yokohama, 16th Novr 1895

My dear Sir Ernest,

Many thanks for your note of 14th which reached me yesterday afternoon, and for the information it conveys. I rarely go to the Races nowadays, and on all 3 days this week was endeavouring to employ myself more profitably in the office.

It is undoubtedly true that the Japanese are making Smokeless Powder in Japan, but I judge only in an experimental way, because I know that what they require for actual practical use is imported through Armstrongs, and for the most part if not altogether manufactured by my people, Nobel's.

Perhaps when you get the chance, you would not mind once more broaching the matter to Marquis Saigo, altho' I am constrained to think that if the idea is to bear any fruit, it will only be by getting one of the big Japanese firms interested, & allowing them to finish it for us.

Again with best thanks. Yours faithfully,

James P. Mollison

13. John Milne to Satow (p. 21 in file)

Shide Hill House, Newport, I of W

Nov 19 1895

My dear Satow

In accordance with paragraph 3 of the Regulations it seems that I have to trouble you and I hope that the enclosed is in proper form. Enclosed you will find Copy of my last letter from the F.O. This order[?] & License came to me through the Japanese Legation in London.

I have seen Adml. Wharton head of the Hydrographic department, given him further notes about a new shoal where a man of war might bring up &c., but all that I can learn, is that the only reward is for a fisherman who points out a rock that has been missed in some survey. It was chiefly through Fraser that I gave what represents 2 new charts & sailing directions to my own people thereby increasing Japanese dissatisfaction. They have got what two new charts represent, Snow has got nothing I got black looks. I helped you a little at the time of the Bering Sea arbitration & should the subject crop up for your side of the Pacific I hold a long & important document containing all that its maker (H.J. Snow) knows. I have seen a little of the seals myself. If the matter is not under consideration I shall give the same to some magazine as papers, but if it is, the information is of a nature advantageous to those who hold it.

My last work at the Admiralty is to provide them with a machine to record the vibrations of Torpedo

Catchers, but I do not think I made them particularly happy by what I pointed out, regarding their specifications for their boats. F Elgar formerly Inspector of Dockyards is privately suggesting that they engage my services for Valuation[?] work. It is out of your line and out of your Department, but if they heard from you that what I did in Japan was not altogether unsatisfactory it is possible that it might filter through to the department where it would give me great assistance.

Have just had 10 days in town staying with the Perrys. Mrs M enjoyed it immensely. Everything went well – the Zoo – Music Halls – Theatres – dinners – but above all Peter Robinsons. I had the bill & she & she came out with big mutton sleeves simply gorgeous. In a day or two I go to Oxford to see the Astronomer of the University H H Taylor who in 1896 comes to Japan to observe an eclipse & bother you. Taylor, & Bissett, who is yet to[?] graduate & becoming fearfully learned not in his own subject – Botany – but in some of the ‘ologies. I think I told you that Lord Kelvin got £80 for me to determine the best type of instrument for the world survey, the experiments for which are going on in the Stables. Little by little I am getting used to country life – am attacking some problems in fuming[?] – go to church on Sundays, listen to prayers at 9 – go to bed at 10 & generally am falling in with “the common round the daily task” of a regular old Hayseed. On Jan 1st, 6th & 8th I lecture in town at the Society of Arts & the R.G.S. & am invited to talk at several places in the provinces. With best wishes & kind regards to Lowther, Paget, Gubbins, Chamberlain & all old friends.

Yours Sincerely

John Milne

14. Note to Satow (p. 24 in file) ³

Hotel Metropole.

Tokyo.

Mr. Peech [Puch?] has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Ernest Satow’s kind letter of introduction to Mr. Matsumoto, the Director of Railways in Japan.

Mr. Peech called upon Mr. Matsumoto [Sōichirō] this morning & had an interview & Sir Ernest Satow will be pleased to hear that it passed off as satisfactorily as Mr. Peech could have wished.

Mr. Peech desires to return to Sir Ernest Satow his warm thanks for his kindness & courtesy.

To Sir Ernest Satow

Her Britannic Majesty’s Envoy Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary

27 Nov. 1895

³ See also Satow’s diary for 18 December 1895.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

15. Josiah Conder to Satow (p. 24A in file)

Tokyo

Novr. 28th 1895.

Dear Sir Ernest

I have gone carefully into the matter of the British legation boundary wall and find that at present rates the cost should be about \$14.40 cts per “ken”, or \$24 per 10 feet in length. This is not much lower than the contractor’s price – 26 yen, though in a large length it makes some saving. Of course I must not mislead you, and am compelled to admit that though the total amount spent on boundary wall sounds a large one, it is not altogether so exorbitant when analyzed. This walling however is merely a matter of repeating an existing structure. It is in the Legation buildings themselves, I think, that the need of the local expert is more needed and would be more productive of economy as well as comfort and safety. Thanking you again for the very kind interest and attention you have given me in the matter.

I remain

Very faithfully yours

Josiah Conder

Tokyo 24th
Nov. 28th 1895

Dear Sir Ernest

I have gone carefully into the matter of the British Legation boundary wall and find that at present rates the cost should be about \$14.40^{cts} per "ken", or \$24 per 10 feet in length. This is not much lower than the contractor's price - 26 yen, though in a large length it makes some saving. Of course I must not mislead you, and am compelled to admit that though the total amount spent on boundary wall sounds a large one, it is not altogether so exorbitant when analyzed. This walling however is merely a matter of repeating an existing structure. It is in

25

the Legation buildings themselves, I think, that the need of the local expert is more needed and would be more productive of economy as well as comfort and safety. Thanking you again for the very kind interest and attention you have given me in the matter

Remain

Very faithfully yours

Josiah Conder

Conder to Satow

16. James P. Mollison to Satow (p. 26 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

Yokohama, 29th Novr. 1895

My Dear Sir Ernest,

Apropos of my idea of Nobel's starting an Explosives factory in Japan, I have been much struck by a paragraph in the "Advertiser" this morning stating that it is said Armstrong Mitchell & Co. are about to start a Shipyard & Iron & Engine Works in Japan, this being the firm you may remember I told you that gets its supplies of Ballistite from Nobels. ⁴ Have you heard anything about the ship building yard idea. If there is anything in the rumour there should be nothing incongruous in the Explosives Factory Scheme being carried out simultaneously. On the contrary, the latter would be a most useful adjunct to the other.

It occurs to me to ask you if you can without breach of confidence tell me how Cornes & Co's test claim for refund of overcharged duty stands, The reason I ask is because I have it on good authority that the German Govt. has asked each one of its Nationals to draw up a statement of their claims would be[?] over the same question, since 1874, and that it was one point that was retarding the completion of the negotiations with Germany, for Treaty Revision.

Thanking you in anticipation for any information you may be able to afford me.

Believe me,

Yours Faithfully

James P. Mollison

17. Münter to Satow (p. 28 in file) ⁵

3. Aoicho. Tokyo.

November 30th 1895.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow

Referring to our short conversation of last night I understand that it was the intention of the Japanese Government – until quite recently – to ask Parliament to vote for the following increase of the navy.

4 battleships, 15000 Tons displacement each, of which 3 to be ordered abroad.

3 cruisers, 7,500 tons each, 2 ordered abroad.

4 cruisers, 4600 “ “ 3 “ “

5 cruisers, 3000 “ “ to be built here &

3 torpedo boat destroyers of which 2 should be ordered abroad.

I also understand that at a cabinet meeting held a very short time ago a considerable reduction in this year's appropriation has been decided and that they will now only ask Parliament – assembling next

⁴ Ballistite is a smokeless propellant made from two high explosives, nitrocellulose and nitroglycerine. It was developed and patented by Alfred Nobel in the late 19th century. (Wikipedia)

⁵ Munter of Armstrong Mitchell Co. Ltd. had visited Satow on 24 October 1895 and spoken then about Japanese plans for naval expansion. (Satow's diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

month – to vote funds for the building of:

1 battleship of 15000 Tons displacement

2 cruisers of 7500 Tons each and

3 cruisers of 4600 Tons each,

all to be built abroad.

I have also been informed that the cause of this decision is the fear of China being incapable of paying the second instalment of the war indemnity in proper time. And also that as soon as this sum has been paid they would ask Parliament to vote for the rest of the programme.

This information has been given to me in confidence.

I am, dear Sir Ernest Satow,

yours faithfully

C.H. Munter

18. Mollison to Satow (p. 29 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

Yokohama, 2d. Dec r . 1895.

My dear Sir Ernest,

I am much obliged for your note of 30th ulto. & for the information it contains about the duty question. Speaking from recollection, I fancy the Chinese Employés who did Custom House work for foreigners made their “Squeeze” by buying bus [Japanese currency from the Edo era] & paying duty with them for some little time after 1874, but gradually as we know, bus disappeared altogether; when, I don’t exactly remember. In any case I can quite understand there being limitations to claims such as you mention, & no doubt each would be very closely analyzed by the Japanese if they found themselves compelled to admit the principle. From the methodical way the German Govt. is moving, it looks as if they thought their merchants might have a claim, and it will be interesting to watch how negotiations go on.

Many thanks too for what you write about my scheme, and I’ll endeavour to obtain an interview with the Voce Minister, but fear it will be difficult.

Yours faithfully

James P. Mollison

19. Conder to Satow (p. 30 in file)

11 December 1895

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

My Dear Sir Ernest,

I hasten to reply to your very kind note that I perfectly concur with your suggestion of proposing £100 only, as a retaining fee in addition to a commission upon the cost of executed works. With such commission I certainly agree that the larger sum (£200) might appear exorbitant and I am anxious not in any way to injure my chances of gaining a permanent connection with Legation work. It is indeed very good of you to take so much trouble on my account, with renewed thanks

I remain

Yours very truly

Josiah Conder.

20. John Langdon Parsons to Satow (p. 31 in file)

“17/12 ans that I have sent ans of Jap. Govt. direct to Australia.”

KOBE CLUB

KOBE, JAPAN

14 Decr 1895

Dear Sir Ernest,

I am much gratified by the intelligence conveyed in your letter of the 11th instant, and I am deeply obliged for your kindness and for the trouble you have taken. It will afford Mr. Angar[?] much satisfaction that His Majesty has been pleased to accept of “Lassie” whose pedigree I enclose. ⁶

I have also to thank you for your kind attention to the request re the appointment of Commissioners for taking oaths. A letter to the Hong Kong Club will reach me up to the first week in January.

I have just returned from three days in Osaka – a truly wonderful place.

Once more thanking you on my own behalf and that of my son.

Yours very faithfully

J. Langdon Parsons

21. J.H. Brooke to Satow (p. 33 in file)

Herald office

Decr. 10th 1895

Dear Sir Ernest,

⁶ On 1 January 1896 Emperor Meiji talked to Satow about the collie bitch given by J. L. Parsons of Australia. On 6 July Satow supported Parsons's application to become Japanese Consul at Adelaide. On 15 April 1898 Parsons called on Satow after he had been made Consul. (Satow's diary) See also the letter no. 28 from Parsons below.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Prior to the receipt of your note (which I was glad to get) I had penned the paragraph for to-night's Herald, which I thought on reperusal was sufficiently in consonance with the idea you expressed as not to require alteration. I may write something more on the subject, if called for, when I get the additional information you have so kindly promised, that is to say if required.

It would be desirable when a very accurate translation of any important document is required if you would kindly furnish me with a copy of a correct rendering, as our translator perhaps is scarcely to be depended on in a case of that sort.

Yours truly

J.H. Brooke

22. Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle ⁷ to Satow (p. 34 in file)

“ans 29 Jan 96”

44 LOWER SLOANE ST.

20th Dec 95

Dear Sir,

I venture to enclose to you a letter for Admiral Ito who commanded the Japanese Fleet during the war.

⁸ There are so many Ito's and I am not sure that he is a Viscount so that the best plan is to send it through you.

Apologising for troubling you and regretting that we never met in the East,

I remain, yrs faithfully, E.R. Fremantle

23. John P. Reid to Satow (p. 35 in file)

No. 16[?], Yokohama

20 December 1895

Dear Sir Ernest

After our conversation of last night, I took an early opportunity of having a private chat with Mr. Till[?], he & I being the most [] in the buus duty question.

I am to say how deeply we regret we should have unwittingly caused you any annoyance whatever, that our intended move was entirely, as I told you, from our wish to strengthen your hand as far as lay in

⁷ Admiral Sir Edmund Robert Fremantle (1836-1929) was Commander-in-Chief, China Station, 1892-96.

⁸ Admiral Itō Sukeyuki (1843-1914) also known as Itō Yukō commanded the Japanese combined fleet in the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-5. He was also known as 'Yalu' Itō after his victory in the Battle of the Yalu River in 1894.

our power, and that if you will permit me to say so, you hold our confidence far too fully for it ever possibly to have occurred to us that you would not further our interests in every way you could.

No doubt we ought to have first consulted you as to whether you thought an appeal to the Foreign Office, through Parliament, would promote our cause or not, this we especially[?] did not do, but [] and I trust the fact of my showing everything [] to Mr Longford

24. Satow's reply to Reid (draft noted on letter) (p. 39 in file) ⁹

Private

21 Dec. 1895

My dear Reid,

Many thanks for your note of yesterday telling me that under the circs. the plan of having a question asked in the House has been given up, and I am quite satisfied with the explanation you give me of what was in the minds of those who had proposed it. The fact that you told Longford all about the matter is by itself sufficient to show that the intention was to act quite openly with the legation.

I shall be very glad to have any further information about the boo question, and on all others in which the interests of British firms are involved my earnest desire will always be to work with and for them. It is only by there being mutual confidence and cooperation between us all that we can hope to hold our own in these rather troublous times.

y.v.t.

E.S.

25. Captain William H. Henderson, R.N. to Satow (p. 40 in file) ¹⁰

Consulate. Dec. 23rd. 4 p.m.

Dear Sir Ernest,

I am sorry I cannot come up this evening, but it is impossible. No information whatever is to be gained. Weather was not bad until 6th or late on 5th Bonnington may have broken down anywhere and be anywhere – looking for her will be like searching for a “needle in a bundle of hay” – & I am in an awkward position. I don't believe anything I can do will be of the slightest use – still one does not like doing nothing if there are lives to be saved. I am going to fill up with coal – and think I shall wait for the Empress of China – and then go out & have a look round – it will at any rate satisfy the owners. If I go I shall start tomorrow evening or first thing Wednesday morning.

⁹ See also Satow's diary for 19 December 1895.

¹⁰ For other letters from Captain Henderson to Satow see PRO 30/33 6/10 Naval authorities.

Very truly yours

W.H. Henderson

26. Mollison to Satow (p. 42 in file)

MOLLISON & CO. [printed letterhead]

Yokohama, 26th Decr. 1895.

My dear Sir Ernest

I have just had a reply from Marquis Saigo's Private Secretary to my last communication, and believing you to be sufficiently interested, to care to know the ideas of the Naval Department on the Factory Scheme, I venture to send the Private Secy's letter for your perusal, along with copy of my letter to which it replies. If I understand my Banto's [clerk's] translation correctly, there would appear to be little or no hope of the scheme being taken up through my direct efforts, and it only remains for me to try through one of the big Japanese firms, to which end I shall pay a visit to Tokyo, perhaps on Saturday.

Meantime might I ask you to favor me with a literal translation of the Secy's letter for transmission to Nobel's? I would not venture to ask such a thing, were the matter not such a private one. I am glad to have this opportunity of wishing you all the Comp'ts [Compliments] of the Season & Believe me

Yours Faithfully

James P. Mollison

Enclosure [very faint handwriting]

To the Private Secretary of Admiral Marquis Saigo Tsukumichi

Minister for H.I. Majesty's Navy

Dear Sir

Referring to my official letter to the Minister dated 16th Septr. and your courteous reply of 3rd Octr. it is the wish of Messrs. Nobel Co. that I should seek to obtain an opportunity of explaining the proposed scheme for the Establishment of a Factory in Japan for the manufacture of Ballistite and other explosives more fully than is perhaps done in my note of 16th Septr. and it would afford me much gratification if you would grant me an interview for this purpose on any day & any hour & place most suited to your convenience.

The persistent rumours that are about in regard to the Establishment in Japan of a Steel & ship building yard by Messrs. Armstrong Mitchell & Co. on somewhat similar lines as those proposed by me makes it incumbent on me as Messrs. Nobel's agent in Japan to spare no effort in bringing this scheme to the favourable notice of H.I. Majesty's Government, & this must be my excuse if any is required for

again troubling you. Awaiting the favor of your reply and trusting it may be favorable to my request.

My dear Sir

Yours faithfully

James P. Mollison

There would appear to be some connection between Armstrong Mitchell & Co.'s scheme (if the rumours are true) & Nobels, inasmuch as I am aware that the Ballistite supplied to the Japanese Navy by the former alone, with quick-firing guns is obtained for the most part if not wholly from Nobels.

J.P.M.

27. Earl Spencer ¹¹ to Satow (p. 45 in file)

"wrote to Hongkong 19 Feb."

Bombay

26 Dec. 95.

Sir,

I hope that Your Excellency will forgive my writing to you, but I hope that my business will not give you much trouble & that you can do what I venture to ask you readily by deputy.

Lady Spencer and I propose returning from India by Japan & Vancouver. We hope to reach Nagasaki by the Canadian Pacific Steamer from Hongkong which arrives on the 22 March. We leave from Yokohama on the 16 April.

May I ask you to have a passport made out for us – Lady Spencer, myself, a Lady's maid & an English manservant, & have it sent to the Ship at Nagasaki.

I do not know whether we shall require a Japanese servant to act as interpreter & guide, possibly you would send such a man if it is necessary but Lord Bruner[?] who is here says it is not needed.

I shall hope to pay my respects to Your Excellency at Tokio.

When in office I have often had the pleasure of reading & seeing[?] despatches from you from Tangier, but I do not think that I have ever had the pleasure of meeting you.

I hope that the American trouble will blow over. I cannot think that our American cousins will like to fight us over a miserable squabble with a lawful American state.

The President if he is merely swaggering has gone further than any of his predecessors of late years.

I shall be interested, if is permitted, to see some of the Japanese Ships & naval arrangements.

Believe me very truly yours,

¹¹ John Poyntz, 5th Earl Spencer (1835-1910). Liberal peer and First Lord of the Admiralty, 1892-95. He inspected the new naval dockyards at Sasebo and Kure.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Spencer

28. J. Langdon Parsons to Satow (p. 47 in file)

Port Darwin

Australia

10 Jan 1896

Dear Sir Ernest,

I have written to Marquis Ito and to Viscount Enomoto asking for the appointment of Honorary Consul in South Australia for Japan.

My appointment by the Government of South Australia as Commissioner and that I was commended by the Chambers of Commerce & Manufacturers will I presume suffice for credentials.

May I venture to seek your kind interest and influence?

Kobe, Nagasaki, Shanghai and Hong Kong give promise of large business. We shall work in to Yokohama and Tokio in time.

Wishing you a "Happy New Year" in which my son joins.

Yours faithfully

J. Langdon Parson

P.S. I hope you may have found a palatable glass of wine among those sent, which ought to have been attended to much earlier/ J.L.P.

29. Reverend A.E. Webb to Satow (p. 49 in file)

S. Andrew's House

11 Sakae Cho

Shiba

Tokyo

Jan. 19. 1896.

Dear Sir Ernest,

On consulting with King ¹² again about the [foreign] Cemetery [at Aoyama], I find that Mr. Fraser ¹³ himself made the negotiations with the authorities, so I am sorry that I cannot tell you whether the Naimusho or the Tokyo Fu is the office concerned. However, the present status seems to be this, that the

¹² Reverend A.F. King (1856-1918). Anglican missionary and member of Archdeacon Shaw's so-called Shiba sect.

¹³ Hugh Fraser was the British minister, 1889-94. He was buried in Aoyama cemetery's foreign section and his substantial grave is still there.

Japanese keep the enclosure tidy, but do not touch any of the graves: and King says that it looks very much better than it did a few years ago, before action was taken in the matter. Apparently, all that remains to be done is to make & keep the graves tidy. King suggests that he should bring the matter up at the meeting of the St. Andrew's congregation, which you kindly settled to be at the Legation, on Monday, Febr 3rd, at 4.30 p.m. Perhaps a small committee could then be formed to attend to the matter, & to be responsible for the funds required. Then the Roman Archbishop could be approached privately, with a view to combined action in the matter, or at least to the avoidance of any suspicion about our proceedings. King suggested that perhaps yourself, and the French and German Ministers, would kindly take the oversight of the matter, nominating men to have the immediate charge of it: but of course this was not more than a suggestion, & you will be able readily to replace it, if it does not seem to you advisable, by a wiser scheme.

King knows the history of all that has hitherto been done so much better than I, who was not here during that time, that I wish that he would speak to you about it instead of me. I presumed to mention it, because until Archdeacon Shaw's return I have control of the money collected in the English offertories, & would gladly devote part of it to keeping the graves tidy; and I think the Archdeacon would approve of such a use being made of the money. We hear today that the Archdeacon expects to leave England on Febr. 3rd by the N.D. Lloyd S.S. Preussen for Yokohama.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully

A.E. Webb

30. W.B. Walter to Satow (p. 51 in file)

Yokohama

14 Jan 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

There was no result this evening, as the gentleman required was detained during the Diet, & I must try for him again tomorrow. ¹⁴

It strikes me that the matter may not yet have gone beyond the English admiralty & that probably the Foreign Office may not yet know of it, & may therefore hardly understand being telegraphed to in reference to it, so on the whole I would prefer no message being sent at present if you have no objection.

Yours sincerely

¹⁴ See Satow's diary for 14 January 1896. "W.B. Walter came to show teleg. fr. Armstrongs abt. battleship; he went off to see Ito [Toshiyoshi] the V.M. [Vice Minister] of Marine, but was not successful."

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

W.B. Walter

31. Walter to Satow (p. 53 in file)

Private

Yokohama

16 Jan. 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

The matter I spoke about is now under consideration – but as the Japanese Govt expresses itself as much in want of the vessel, there seems little prospect of its being able to agree to the proposal – unless the Prime Minister should intervene from special motives.

This has been explained in my telegraph to Elswick [in Newcastle], in which I have also asked that should the matter be very important the Foreign Office London be requested to ask for your influence to be exerted.

There is a report here this morning that the Japanese have a message to the effect that relations between England & two continental powers are strained.

Yours sincerely

W.B. Walter

32. Walter to Satow (p. 55 in file)

Yokohama

18 Jan 1896

Dear Sir Ernest

I have a message from Newcastle to the effect that Armstrongs are doing as requested in my last telegram viz applying to the Foreign Office.

Yours sincerely

W.B. Walter

33. R.F. Roundell to Satow (p. 56 in file)

“Mr. Peacock Please see to it. E.S.” [Satow’s writing above letter]

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company [printed letterhead]

S.S. Rosetta

20th Jan. 1896

To Sir Edward [sic.] Satow

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Dear Sir

I enclose two letters of introduction to you, given to me by my cousin Lord Selbourne. I am with my brother now on the way to Japan and we propose to commence our journey there at Kobe. My brother and myself are very anxious to see the Castle at Nagoya and also the Palace at Kioto and should be very much obliged if you could help us in the matter. My address will be

R.E. Roundell

Poste Restante

Kioto

Believe me

Yours sincerely

Richard Foulis Roundell ¹⁵

34. Walter to Satow (p. 57 in file)

Private

Yokohama

23 Jan 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

I am much obliged for your note. No definite refusal has been given, but our friends here are really very much in want of what they have ordered – & do not at all appreciate giving it up and the Diet having specially made appropriations for the order, complicates matters very much – as explanations would have to be made in that direction.

In fact it cannot be done except as a very special favour, which evidently at the moment the Govt does not wish to ask directly.

Yours sincerely

W.B. Walter

35. R.J. Kirby to Satow (p. 59 in file)

Okura & Co.[Printed letterhead]

7, Ginza Nichome,

TOKYO, JAPAN

Tokyo January 27th 1896

[ans. Jan. 28 expressing thanks for information & satisfaction]

¹⁵ Apparently R.F. Roundell was the Conservative M.P. for Skipton, 1918-24.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Dear Sir Ernest,

I have thought that you, as British Minister, might like to have some idea of what I, a British Subject, am doing in Tokyo.

For the past ten years I have represented, in Japan, Messrs. Jno. Birch & Co. of London (now a limited concern) Engineering Merchants. During the past eight years, beginning from the fact that eight years ago it was well nigh impossible for any one but a German or Japanese to get government business, I have worked in conjunction with Messrs. Okura & Co, who make all of their engineering purchases from Eng. [England] through Messrs. J.B. & Co. Though I am paid entirely by Messrs. J.B. & Co., it is my duty to help & advise Messrs Okura & Co, in carrying out & procuring of all business placed with Messrs. J.B. & Co.

As my office is in Messrs Okura & Co's business premises, Mr. Okura asks me to do many things which do not concern Messrs J.B. & Co, but I have always gone on the principle that what ever helps Mr. Okura indirectly helps business, and so I do them.

I find that Messrs Okura & Co put a great deal of trust in me, and so far the business has worked very successfully.

Messrs Okura & Co do business on the same lines with Messrs J.B. & Co, as Yokohama foreign firms deal with their correspondents in Europe. I only act as an adviser.

Mr. Birch Crown treasurer for Singapore, is brother of the head of the firm. There is a younger brother in Osaka, working on the same terms as myself, under me.

I remain, dear Sir Ernest,

Yours truly

R.J. Kirby

36. N. Tennant to Satow (p. 61 in file)

“JAPAN GAZETTE” OFFICE

The Japan Gazette (Evening Edition); The Japan Gazette (Morning Edition); The Japan Weekly Gazette; The Eastern Sportsman (Monthly); The Japan Directory (Annually); The Japan Gazette Sheet Directory (Annually)

Yokohama, Feb 4th, 1896

Sir,

It has been suggested that the Legations might be desirous of sharing in the scheme for a daily telegraphic service which has been so well received in Yokohama.

The proposal is to obtain practically the whole of the North China Daily News service that is of value,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

& upon receipt of the telegrams in Yokohama to immediately distribute them to subscribers, after which they would appear in the Yokohama evening newspapers.

I have already received promises of support to the amount of \$3,100 from various subscribers, & the Japan Herald will pay \$500 per annum. It was originally our intention to contribute a similar sum, but owing to certain circumstances having arisen, the details of which I need not specify, we have decided to raise our subscription to \$1,000 per annum, so that the total fund assured up to the present is \$4,600.

The principal firms in Yokohama have each guaranteed a sum of \$100 per annum, & if that amount were subscribed by each Legation wishing to avail of the service, we would undertake to distribute the telegrams to the various Consulates in Yokohama, & send a special messenger to Tokyo to deliver the news to the Legations.

Trusting that the proposal will meet with Your Excellency's favourable consideration & patronage.

I beg to remain

Your obedient servant

N. Tennant

[Ans. 6 Feb. \$100 for one year certain on condition of delivery at Legation & Consulate.]

37. W.W. Till to Satow (p. 64 in file)

Yokohama February 6th 1896

Dear Sir Ernest Satow

At the request of the Executive Committee of the Nippon Race Club I am writing you privately on the subject of the plot of ground the members at the Annual Meeting empowered the purchase or lease of by the committee.

At the date of the meeting we were not in possession of a copy of the existing lease, nor had we a very exact plan of the ground in question; we have since obtained through the Kencho [prefectural office] a copy of the lease, & have succeeded in procuring what we believe to be a reliable plan of the Race Club's compound & surrounding plots, both documents attached.

The plan will show you exactly how we are situated, the lot numbered 1815 is the N.R.C. compound, & we have buildings erected on lot 1814, 1779 & 1816, these three we rent from the Monban at \$30 per annum & are the three lots we are anxious to have under our control, also Government lots marked 1812 & 1813 on the plan.

Ground numbered 1817 & 1818 we have already leased from the native owners for a term of three years & paid the rent of \$300, say \$100 per annum – we have no buildings on this land.

At the general meeting you were kind enough to promise the Club your assistance in this matter,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

hence the reason of my troubling you – will you give us your idea of the form your application should take, or what would be much preferable, if not asking too much, will you negotiate with the Governor on behalf of the Club.

Thanking you in anticipation

Believe me

Yours truly

W.W. Till

Notes apparently in Satow's writing:

1779 where Imperial carriages stand

1814, 1813 & 1812 Kenchō lots empty

1779 & 1876 private owner said to live in Negishi \$30 a year verbal agreement with the Monban

1817 & 1818 lease for \$300 for 3 years, expiring in 1897 in name of Krapp & Co.

38. Reverend H.J. Foss to Satow (p. 66 in file)

“Ans. 13.2.96”

The Firs,

Kobe

11 Feby 96

Dear Sir Edmund [sic.],

I believe that you requested me through Archdeacon Shaw to send a yearly account of monies in hand for Mrs. Noguchi. ¹⁶ I have as you know been absent from Japan for 15 months, & during that time Mr. Henry Hughes of our Mission has kindly acted as my substitute; last year the money was therefore given to Mrs. Noguchi every quarter and at the beginning of the year a present of 4 yen was added from the interest which had accrued during the year.

I have just paid over the quarter due at the end of December, and I find that I have in hand forty eight dollars & fifty nine cents (\$48.59) which will be sufficient till next October. Part of the interest I will give to Mrs. Noguchi as a present for her children in a day or two, and reserve some for the end of the year.

¹⁶ Noguchi Tomizō was a young samurai from Aizu. He became Satow's servant and lived with him from 1865, seeking to learn English. He accompanied Satow to England in 1869 where Satow 'paid for his schooling for a couple of years.' Noguchi stayed on in England with Japanese Government funding after Satow returned to Japan, then returned to Tokyo where he became a civil servant. He died in 1885, much to Satow's regret. (*A Diplomat in Japan*, p. 170)

Mrs. Noguchi's sister came to receive the money, & she reports well of her sister's health. The poor girl who is out of her mind is no better in health, and taking care of her must be a very sad task.

I do not know if it is right in a private letter to allude to other matters which concern more than myself. You are aware that there are lots held by foreigners on the hill in Kobe under the promise of a perpetual lease from the Government. When the rental was duly fixed according to the old Agreement, a lease was offered to us which did not seem to be a satisfactory one, & objections were raised. Now that the Treaty between England & Japan has been signed, & certain arrangements have been made about the perpetual leasehold of the land on the Foreign Concessions, could not the leases of the property on the hill be put exactly on the same lines, & a lease given to us in the same words as those connected with the Concession lots. The desire of the Government being apparently to grant us these lands on the same terms, it seems a great pity that the same leases could not be offered, as this would satisfy everybody.

It is I believe the last two clauses in the offered lease which seem objectionable – one seeming to take somewhat away from the idea of perpetuity, & the other if construed strictly and acted upon literally would deprive the lessee of his property by any unavoidable delay in paying over the rental.

I trust that you will excuse my mentioning this matter here, but I was not in Japan when the subject was mooted last year.

I hear that Archd[eaco]n Shaw will probably be in Yokohama by March 20.

Yours sincerely

H.J. Foss

39. George Goodwin (Consulting Engineer) to Satow (p. 68 in file)

“Ans. and letter of introduction for Mr. Goodwin to V. Min of War sent 12. Feb/96”

Hotel Metropole

Tokio ¹⁷

11 Feby 1896

Dear Sir,

I thank you very much for the four letters of introduction received today, but there is one more I should very much like & that is to the head of the War Department, the object being to introduce the use of Cordite or smokeless powder & the machinery for its manufacture, which all leading Governments are adopting.

My friends Messrs Easton[?] Anderson & Goolden of London having practically the monopoly for the

¹⁷ This letter has the London address of Goodwin (2 Victoria Mansions, Victoria St., Westminster S.W.) which has been crossed out and the Tokyo hotel inserted.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

manufacture of the machinery.

I remain Sir

Yours faithfully

George Goodwin

40. From a vet regarding a disease of Satow's horse (p. 69 in file)

2 pages, checked at National Archives.

11/II/96

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that the skin infection of your horse shows only little tendency to heal. The original [] on the back changed in a benignant wound, but along the lymphatics in the direction to the [] other ulcers appeared which heal very slowly though the treatment is very careful.

The disease is still local but it seems that in noble horses there is greater tendency to extension of this disease on account of the stronger developed lymphatic system, while in common Japanese horses the disease very slowly expands and cases of complete recovery are amongst them not seldom.

[]. It is not possible to prognosticate the case [] but it seems that the prognosis is in foreign horses with regard to this disease much more unfavourable than in Japanese horses.

Yours respectfully

[vet's name]

41. Article in *The Gazette* of 13 February 1896 stating that Satow's views have been misrepresented in the *Chuo*

42. The *Chuo*'s reply to the *Gazette* as quoted in the latter of 15 February 1896

43. Illegible letter from Yokohama dated 19 February 1896 (p. 73 in file)

44. Mollison to Satow (p. 76 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

Yokohama, 18th Feby. 1896

My dear Sir Ernest,

I am very much obliged for your note of this morning on the Duty refund matter, and for the information you gave me, which I shall take care to keep Strictly Confidential.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

It is especially good of you to place at my disposal for perusal the Correspondence between yourself and the Home Authorities on the subject and I'll gladly avail myself of your kind invitation to lunch on Saturday next if quite convenient to you. I shall go up as you suggest by the 11.25 train.

With my best respects, and again thanking you,

Believe me

Yours Faithfully

James P. Mollison

45. Montague Kirkwood¹⁸ to Satow (p. 77 in file)

Tokyo

21st Feb 1896

My dear Satow,

[], Thompson & myself having conferred together we think that it will perhaps be better, before moving further, to await the return of Archdeacon Shaw who is shortly expected.

The Archdeacon has always taken so much interest in the Church and the old committee system worked so well whilst the members had him alone to treat with that we should like to learn his views before abandoning it or before deciding to recommend its maintenance in its present or in some modified form.

Yours very truly

Montague Kirkwood

46. R.L. Thomson to Satow (p. 79 in file)

28th February

Confidential

Dear Sir E. Satow

The enclosed letter from C.W. Kinder will give you the latest news about Ry [Railway] matters in North China. Please return K's letter to me when you have read it, treating the contents as confidential, and oblige,

Yours vy. Truly

R.L. Thomson

There are really good and straight Chinamen if they can only be brought to the front and supported. This

¹⁸ William M. H. Kirkwood (1850-1926). From 1885 a legal adviser to the Justice Ministry until his return to England in 1901.

is our best policy in my opinion, as it gives a maximum of advantage and a minimum of friction with rival Powers.

47. H.J. Foss to Satow (p. 80 in file)

“Ans. 31. Will do what I can in spite of lapse of time since leases prepared.”

The Firs

Kobe

4 March /96

Dear Sir Ernest

I must apologise for a somewhat long delay in answering your letter, but I have not yet got into my house and have many things in some confusion still. I also must apologise for having sent a letter under the impression that the subject of the Hill Lots in Kobe had been brought under your notice last year. I was asked to sign a petition last year on the subject, and I thought that it had been presented, but I find out now that little progress was made last year after all.

I now enclose a copy of both documents: the temporary lease, & the offered lease. They will probably explain themselves. There were a few lots on the Hill which were leased to foreigners direct from the local Government, and the British possessors of such are now myself, S.J. Caswall, H.J. Hunt, D.W. Mackey. I think that these are now the only names remaining.

The special clauses to which objection has been made are (1) No. 2.

in which some objection has been made to the need of obtaining official permission for the sale of rights: hitherto it has been held sufficient to give information of the sale to Consul and to Kencho [prefectural office].

(2) No. 4. This has been thought by lawyers to invalidate the perpetuity of the lease; it also would hardly seem to be necessary now that the Treaty has been signed between England & Japan, & the arrangements about the lots held on perpetual lease on the Concessions have been fully decided.

(3) No. 5. This clause seems to be unnecessarily stringent, as if acted on literally the non-payment of rent by the 15th of Jany (eg) through inadvertence, or absence, or illness would make it possible for the Japanese Government to confiscate the Ground, and all the buildings upon it.

We are all desirous of having the leases settled, and we do not want any special or peculiar advantages, but simply a clean lease of the land in perpetuity. We do not believe that Clause No. 5 would ever be acted on, but in a new lease we think it highly advisable to have only conditions inserted which it would be perfectly equitable to act upon. The similar clause in the Concession leases contains no such stringent conditions about immediate confiscation and the like, and as there would seem to be a distinct advantage

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

in having all the leases of land held in perpetuity from the Japanese Government on the same basis we would venture to suggest the form of lease by which the lands in the Concession of Kobe (& I believe the lands in the Bluff at Yokohama) are held as a suitable one for these Kobe Hill lots.

I have told Mr. Caswall that I am writing to you, and he quite agrees with what I have said, and wishes me to mention that this year – for instance – we had notice on the 12th Jany. that the payment was due on the 15th & that as the first few days of January are always holidays such a short notice is by no means uncommon, & so it would be very easy indeed to become subject to the confiscation threatened in the 5th clause. He also asks me to bring to your notice that all the lessees paid up the land tax without demur though it was more than 20 years since the temporary leases had been granted, and made no attempt to avail themselves of any statute of limitations, & we therefore ought to be able to claim to be treated with as equitable consideration when we simply ask for a fair and reasonable lease.

If it will be better for us to make formal application through the Consular authorities we will gladly do so, but we hope that it may be possible fully to settle these leases satisfactorily & with all due safeguards before we come entirely under the Japanese jurisdiction.

Believe me to be

Very sincerely yours

Hugh James Foss

48. R.L. Thomson to Satow (p. 83 in file)

Mar. 5. 1896

Thursday morning

My dear Sir Ernest Satow

Two rather important telegrams arrived for me yesterday morning at Yokohama, but I only received them late last night here. I think they may interest you so I venture to annex their contents as deciphered. It is really splendid that England is not going to stop in her armament expenditure. This is the right course: fight with our money first and be ready to fight with arms after. The telegram from China (or rather telegrams because I have combined two) comes from non-political sources and with the object of keeping me informed as to matters of business in which friends of mine are interested. Kindly consider this latter telegram as private. It has, however, political importance at the present moment, as you will readily understand.

I am busy trying to get into my house in some sort of fashion & I hope to manage this in the course of the week.

With best regards

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Yours vy truly,

R.L. Thomson

Two telegrams in Thomson's handwriting (pp. 84 & 85)

1) "Goschens naval estimates show £22,000,000 stg increase; five battleships, thirteen cruisers, twenty eight torpedo-boat destroyers; armament two million five hundred thousand" (pounds)

2) repeated from Shanghai 3rd March

"Li-Hung-Chang has telegraphed to Liu-Kun-Yi (Viceroy of Nanking) to meet of possible at Shanghai, bringing with him German experts (i.e. the German officers at Nanking) in order to settle armament and plans of defence for China."

49. R.L. Thomson to Satow (p. 86 in file)

Private 8th March 1896

Dear Sir Ernest Satow:

I am trying to arrange the Chinese matter preliminarily by telegraph. I shall not therefore leave, if I leave at all, until the end of next week. I will try meantime to see the Marquis Ito and call on you after.

Yours Sincerely

R.L. Thomson

50. Thomas Blake Glover to Satow (p. 87 in file)

Ippon matsu ¹⁹

9th March 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

I received your very kind note of 23rd ulto and I shall be only too glad to be of service to your friend Lord Spencer.

If His Lordship makes up his mind to visit Sasebo it will be necessary that the Naval Dept. send notice to the officials in charge.

So far as a steamer is concerned I will be only too pleased that Mitsu Bishi service[?] steamer be placed at your disposal to take Lord Spencer to Sasebo should you have no other suitable craft. I fancy however that the Sasebo officials will be ordered to send a steamer here to take his Lordship there and

¹⁹ Glover's house named Ippon Matsu ('Single Pine Tree') in Nagasaki is open to the public nowadays.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

back. Anyhow you can fall back on Mr. Iwasaki's steamer which is quite comfortable and has often been there before. So far as eatables and drinkables are concerned it will give me great pleasure to look after them.

I fancy Quin will be back by the 22nd and we can arrange between us all that is necessary.

If Lord Spencer visits Bakan I can arrange for his being looked after there.

I am so glad to hear that Mr. Quin is well. He must have picked up very much during his trip.

Your news about Ito and Inouye is very acceptable. Japan will want all the wise heads and management she can muster to steer through these troubled times.

I shall be glad to learn from you as to whether Lord & Lady Spencer will stay over in Nagasaki, and as to their ideas of putting in the time.

With Kind regards

Yours very sincerely, Thomas B. Glover

Conspicuous. And then, after some time
heide. It was as satisfactory and comfortable
the concerned at once gave me great
pleasure to look after them.

Henry Lane will be heard by the
22^d. And we plan arrange between
us all that is necessary.

Lord Spencer writes Baron
I plan arrange for his being looked
after there. I am so glad to hear that.

Dr. Lane is well. He must have
packed up very much during his trip.

Your news about the mid. George
is very acceptable. Japan will want all
the more heads, and management we can
muster to enter through these troubled times.

I shall be glad to learn from you
as to whether Lord & Lady Spencer will
stay over in Nagasaki, and as to their
ideas of putting in the time.

With kind regards

Yours very sincerely, Thomas Glover

Yamanashi
9 March 1896

My dear Sir Ernest-

I received your very kind
note of 23rd ult. and I shall be only too
glad to be of service to you from
Lord Spencer.

If his Lordship makes up his
mind to visit Sasebo it will be necessary
that the Naval Dept send notice to
the officials in charge.

As far as a steamer is
concerned, I will be only too pleased
to arrange that either British mine
steamer be placed at your disposal
to take Lord Spencer to Sasebo should
you have no other suitable prop.

I fancy however that the Sasebo officials
will be ordered to send a steamer home,
to take his Lordship there and back.

Anyhow you can fall back on
Mr. Inaba's steamer which is quite

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

51. R.L. Thomson to Satow (p. 88 in file)

Private

9th March [189]6

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I have just come up from Shida-machi (where I slept for the first time last night) and find your note. I am sorry to say that I have not seen the English (or other) version of the alleged Russo-Chinese Treaty. But I did see that it had appeared in some newspapers – I think in either a Shanghai or a Hong Kong one.

I have not yet looked at my Peking & Tientsin Times which arrived yesterday, but when I return to Shida-machi I will do so in case it may be there. I will also try to learn where exactly the English version is to be found. I much doubt myself if any arrangement between Russia & China has been reduced to writing. I have received an interesting mail from North China, and I will take my chance of seeing you tomorrow morning to read to you my Peking reports. I suggested last year that all Peking official & other news of interest from there should be sent to the Tokio Legation by the Peking idem, and I am sure it would be useful if this were done.

Among other Chinese items I get, much to my astonishment, the news that the Emperor of China has conferred upon me “the Order of the Double Dragon” whatever that may be! This is given me in recognition of my action in founding – or in helping to found the Chinese Red Cross. Thereby hangs a tale which I will tell you tomorrow, but it is a strange thing that after having refused Decorations (& Titles) all my life in the West, I have not had the option to refuse two in the East!

Yours vy truly

R.L. Thomson

52. Samuel Montagu to Satow (p. 91 in file)

[“Recd 18 March 96”

“Ansd 18”]

Hongkong Hotel

Hongkong

Dear Sir Ernest,

When I saw you last in London you were kind enough to tell me that if I wrote to you, you would send me a passport to await me on arrival in Japan. I shall arrive in Kobé on I think April 6th or it may be a day sooner or later. I am travelling with my friend Assur Michaelson & as we are both born in England & British subjects, travelling with British passports, I would venture to trespass on your kindness so far as to ask you to send us what papers are necessary for us both to c/o the Manager of the Hongkong &

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Shanghai Banking Corporation, Kobé. I have made no definite plans as to travel in Japan but we have 2 to 2½ months to spend. If it is necessary to specify the places we desire to visit, would you kindly put in everywhere that you would advise us to see. We want of possible to visit one or two places where Europeans do not often go. I hope that I am not troubling you too far. With your permission I will call on you on my arrival in Tokio as I have a pamphlet on bi-metallism to give you on behalf of my Father. Thanking you in advance

Believe me

Yours sincerely

L.[E?] Samuel Montagu

I hear that you can get a passport to enable you to travel anywhere in the interior. May we have these?
LSM

53. A. Edmund Spender to Satow (p. 93 in file)

[“Applied for. A.E.W.”]

Hotel Metropole

No. 1, Tsukiji, Tokyo

Tokyo, March 15th, 1896

Dear Sir,

When I called on you on Friday last, I forgot to take away the Blackwood Magazine you so kindly volunteered to me. As I shall be staying at St. Andrew's Mission on Friday & Saturday next, would you object to my calling for it on the first afternoon?

I should also be glad if you would kindly obtain for me a permission to look over the docks at Yokosuka on Monday or Tuesday in next week, & send it to await my arrival at the Mission or else at 133 Bluff Yokohama.

Hoping this will not greatly inconvenience you, I have the honour to be, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely

A. Edmund Spender

Note from Satow to A.E. Wileman:

Dear Wileman,

Please have a letter written in Japanese to the Minister of the Navy, as was done a short time ago, for Mr. Spender.

Yours

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

E.S.

54. James P. Mollison to Satow (p. 95 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

Yokohama, 25th March 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

I am very much obliged for your exhaustive letter of 24th inst. on the Duty refund question which places it in a much clearer light to me than ever before. I cannot help thinking that with similar information before them those who hold extreme views as regards the period over which the Claims should extend could not help modifying them very materially. In fact with the 1874 Notification in regard to the redemption of the Old Coins stating, as I understand from your letter before me it did, that although available to Japanese for the payment of taxes these coins would not be accepted at the Custom House it appears to me to be a waste of time to make up claims other than from the date when foreigners were discriminated against in favor of Japanese Merchants as it is impossible to believe that such could ever be recognised.

On the other hand there is no doubt in my mind that from the date when Japanese were favored, the loss of the foreign Merchant is patent & cannot be disputed, and it is to the Board of Trade Requirements on this particular point (if I remember them correctly) that I take exception.

The chief point then it seems to me is to fix the date from which what might perhaps be called just claims, should be made up, and there should be no difficulty I fancy in doing this by reference to the Custom House Books which no doubt record the earliest direct imports & exports by Japanese.

I have much pleasure in enclosing Copy of our Claim from 1885/1894 for your private inspection. Would ask you to kindly return it at your convenience. All the others I understand will be made out in like form.

It only remains for me to again thank you for your Courtesy in placing so much valuable & interesting information before me & to add that it will be treated as you desire in perfect confidence. No allusion has been made to the matter in the Annual Report of the Chamber, so it may not crop up at the meeting on the 31st inst. after all.

Yours faithfully

James P. Mollison

[Noted in margin in Satow's handwriting: "Total duties paid \$241,067.77. Duty overpaid \$4,905.49."]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

55. Satow answers Mollison (copy of letter, p. 97 in file)

Copy

Tokio

26/3/96

My dear Mollison,

I return yr statement of duty overpaid, & will only ask that when you send it to me officially (wch. wd. best be done through Hall) you will furnish me with two written copies on foolscap paper, one for the F.O. & one for our archives. Press copies are very inconvenient things to bind up with our papers.

With respect to the nature of the Govt. notifications of 1874 & 1885, I have no objection to your making use of the information I gave you about them, either privately or at the Chamber of Commerce meeting, as if you had got it direct from the published collections of such documents, wch. are accessible to everyone. What I do not want alluded to are the opinions of the B. of T.

As to the amount of damages wch. wld. be awarded if the principle of compensation were admitted they [there?] may I think be some doubt, but the proportion will be as the total of duties paid. No one will dispute that discrimination is a disadvantage to those agst. whom it is applied, otherwise why stipulate in Treaties against it. It is in the nature of additional taxation levied from the produce or distribution of any article, e.g. 6d a gallon extra on whisky. The extra 6d does not necessarily come out of the distiller's pocket. If he makes a smaller profit, it will be owing to consumption being decreased, so that he sells less, and people spend their money say with the brewer or wine merchant instead.

However, the question of the amounts payable by way of satisfaction, and the principle on wch. they ought to be assessed, can be discussed afterwards. The 1st thing to do is for merchants to furnish the amounts of duties paid by them in dollars & bus respectively. Prob. very few duties were paid in bus of late years. When we get these figures we shall know the facts, & afterwards we can decide what principles are applicable.

y.v.t.

56. Mollison to Satow (p. 98 in file)

MOLLISON & Co.

Yokohama, 27th March 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for your letter of yesterday returning Copy of our Claim for refund of Duty, and I note carefully that when sent in officially it must be through Hall & in duplicate on foolscap.

There being no allusion to this matter in the Annual Report of the Chamber, I had not intended

bringing it forward at the Meeting on 31st inst. and will not do so unless it is your wish that the opportunity should be taken advantage of to disseminate more widely the information you gave me regarding the actual wording of the 1874 Notification, & especially that part of it exempting the Custom House from any obligation to receive the old Coins that were being called in on payment of Duties; on the contrary specially stipulating that they should not be so received, if I read your letter of 24th inst. correctly.

Apropos of your remark in the same letter that “as long as it was possible for foreigners to buy Bus at 320 they paid no higher duties than Japanese, & hence did not suffer,” one or two thoughts have struck me.

There was no Public Exchange Mart where Bus could be bought by all alike, and some foreigners had better & greater facilities for buying Bus than others, the latter of course being at a disadvantage when they approached the Custom House.

But Japanese Merchants were placed on the same footing as those foreigners who had facilities for buying Bus, by having their dollar duty payments assessed at 320 Bus per \$100.

Having thus put Japanese & those foreigners who had facilities for buying Bus, on the same level, did it not become obligatory on the Custom House to accept dollars at 320 on payment of Duties from all & sundry, apart altogether from how the official notification was worded. I almost think it did.

Yours faithfully

James P. Mollison

57. R.J. Kirby to Satow (p. 101 in file)

OKURA & Co.

Telegraphic address “OKURA, TOKYO.”

7 Ginza Nichome,

TOKYO, JAPAN

Tokyo March 31st 1896

Dear Sir Ernest,

Mr. Okura desires me to thank you for what you have done, & hopes good will result.

He asked me to give him your note, which I did, but impressed upon him that it was a private note, marked “private” & must be treated by him as such. He promised me he would regard it in that light. I trust you will not consider I did wrong in giving it to him.

I remain, dear Sir Ernest,

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

Yours truly

R.J. Kirby

P.S. I enclose copy of part of a letter received from London, last mail, bearing on Water pipe inspection.

I do not require the copy back.

Extract from Birch's Letter
of 20th February, 1896.

Tokyo Water Pipes. - With reference to what has recently been said:

Mr. Armer has just returned, after having paid a surprise visit to the Works. He saw a number of Pipes, and very critically examined a portion selected at random, without finding in a single instance one which could be rejected, or about which there even could be any question of rejection.

The system of testing employed by our Inspector he emphatically approved of, and his remark was that the only points which might be drawn attention to by the most hypercritical observer were such things as the following.

Dimples in a few cases; that is to say slight depressions from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm in depth, of about the size of a small button on the outer surface of the Pipes.

Small scabs caused by roughness in the moulds, which produced a slight thickening of the surface in one or two cases, of the thickness of a visiting card!

These, and little fins, due to tiny

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cracks in the surface of the moulds when cooling, were the utmost defects to be found, and of course they could not in any sense be considered as in any way impairing the strength of the Pipes.

We do not wish it to be inferred that such defects as the above are numerous; and even the most critical examination could find nothing to find fault with save trifles to which no practical man could attach the least importance to.

With regard to the interior of the Pipes, they were perfectly smooth, true and free from blemish.

He further added that Messrs Macfarlane Strang & Co had evidently given throughout every possible assistance to our Inspector.

The above is very satisfactory to us, and we trust it will be so in your case also. And we certainly hope that you will protest energetically against any rejection which may be attempted on ground such as the above.

We have learnt with pleasure that Mr. K. Okura purposed to visit the Works at Glasgow himself, and we will be very glad indeed if he carries this out.

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While we must repeat, as we have said before, that our responsibility ends with delivery of the Pipes at Yokohama, and we take no liability for inspection after leaving England, we feel satisfied in our own minds that nothing has been left undone to successfully carry out the Contract in its integrity.

We are dear Sirs,
Yours faithfully
for Jno. Birch & Co., Limited
(signed) J. Grant Birch

58. Mollison to Satow (p. 105 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

Yokohama, 31st March 1896

My dear Sir Ernest,

I have delayed replying to your note of 28th inst. in order to be able to report whether the Duty refund matter had cropped up at the Chamber [of Commerce] Meeting. The meeting has just concluded and as no one referred to the question and the Chairman had told me that allusion to it had purposely been omitted from the Report for the reason that it had never come officially before the Committee, I naturally also preserved a discreet silence. I see the London Branch of the China Association refers to the matter in their report, and seem to be thoroughly acquainted with the wording of the 1885 Notification, as "Excepting Customs dues."

We can now only await the march of events, after claims have been sent in.

In case it may interest you I send an advance copy of the Chamber Report.

Yours faithfully

James P. Mollison

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

59. W. B. Walter to Satow (p. 106 in file)

Private

Yokohama

1 April 1896

My dear Sir Ernest

I am much obliged for your note of yesterday, advising the result of your interview with the Home Minister, on the subject of rejection of English made water pipes by the Tokio fu Engineer. ²⁰

Doubtless the situation will improve on the hint to be given by the Minister, and it is very necessary that this should occur; otherwise Tokyo will not be able to complete the waterworks.

There is such a general want of confidence that no makers will contract under present conditions for any further quantities of pipes.

With many thanks for your kind intervention

I remain

Yours sincerely

W.B. Walter

60. Wm. J. Gayne to Satow (p. 108 in file)

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY'S

ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

(CHINA & JAPAN SERVICE.)

YOKOHAMA, April 6th, 1896

Dear Sir:

If at any time you desire to send letters or special despatches to be posted at Vancouver, as intimated last week, I shall always have pleasure in forwarding them to our Superintendent there, who will mail them by the first train after the steamer's arrival. I send you herewith a package containing some covers addressed to Mr Abbott, which I trust will be suitable for this purpose.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Wm. J. Gayne

²⁰ See Satow's diary for 30 March 1896. "Went to Matsuoka V.M. of Interior abt. water pipes. He said that he was aware that unnecessary strictness had been exercised by the Govr. of Tokio's engineer, but cld. not officially order a re-survey. Wld. take an opportunity of mentioning the matter."

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

61. Earl Spencer to Satow (p. 109 in file)

[Part of letter missing?]

October is the time. We should like to have dwarf trees sent home to the Address which I give at the season when such trees can travel with greatest safety.

A Dozen trees can be sent of small size. Among them I should like specimens of

Double Cherry

Double Plum

Peach

Maples

Fir

Cryptomeria

and Larch trimmed []

The Address will be

Earl Spencer

Althorp

Northampton

England

& shd. be sent through either King & Co. or Messrs. T.H. Cook & Sons.

Spencer

16 April 98

62. Okuma Shigenobu to Satow (p. 110 in file) ²¹

Waseda, April 20/96

Your Excellency

Permit me to introduce to you my esteemed and intimate friend Mr. Tokutomi, the proprietor and editor of the “Kokumin Shimbun” and the “Kokumin-no-Tomo”, who is, as you may know, one of the most influential journalists of the present day with a very brilliant prospect in the future. He is now about to pay a visit to various countries of Europe and America. He has been lately much interested in engendering the mutual understanding between Great Britain and Japan, and expects this time to stay in England longer than anywhere else, with the object of making acquaintance with public men of note

²¹ See Satow's diary for 7 May 1896. Satow notes that he was visited by Tokutomi and Fukai with a letter “supposed to be from Okuma.” He gave them letters to F.V. Dickins and J.B. Capper of the London *Times*.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

there. In giving him any assistance he may be in need of, you will confer a great favour on

Yours respectfully

S. Okuma

P.S. – Mr. Fukai, the editor of the “Far East” whom I introduced to you some time ago will accompany Mr. Tokutomi in his journey.

63. Professor Michel Revon to Satow (p. 111 in file, in French, requesting titles of books about the judicial organisation of English colonies)

64. George Hodgkinson to Satow (p. 112 in file)

14B Concession

Osaka

May 9th 1896

Sir E.M. Satow

Dear Sir

A kind friend of my father's Mr Dawson of Lancaster on hearing of my proposed visit to Japan, offered me a letter of introduction to you which of course I gladly accepted. I was in Tokyo a few days since and had intended seeing you but you were away from home.

Enclosed please find Mr Dawson's letter.

My partner Mr Kershaw and I are Electrical Engineers and expect to do a little business though this branch of engineering is quite as forward here as in England. We also represent a firm of Gas and Oil engine makers, a firm of cable manufacturers for telegraph and telephone work, a Sheffield house for steel of all descriptions and a Machine tool maker who has already done a quantity of work for the Japanese arsenal.

Should you at any time hear of any contracts to be placed, which you think we could undertake and would let us know of them we shall be very grateful.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

George Hodgkinson

65. Earl Spencer to Satow (p. 114 in file)

Althorp

Northampton

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

3 Jul. 96

My dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for your letter of the 23 April; we have not been to town so I have not seen Mr[?] Lowther.

It is very good of you to have thought about my wish to have a return of the produce of wheat per acre in Japan. I will look it up in the Books to which you refer.

Our dwarf tree came here very well, it looks healthy and strong, & I hope [] which you have kindly inquired about for us will come home safely.

Lady Spencer hardly knows whether she lost[?] any Diamond, she is searching for a blank on some jewels.

We had a capital journey, it was cold & rough at times in the Pacific, but I expect that we had a better passage than usual.

We liked our Canadian railway journey very much. It certainly is a splendid line from Vancouver to Ottawa.

I have hardly seen anyone yet who can give me political news.

I did not feel reassured by what I heard in [illegible]. I cannot believe that we shall have a war with that country but feeling is bad enough in the Western [] to make it most desirable to bring about a settlement. Until [] is due, one must remain uneasy. I think a settlement ought to be tried with Venezuela.

Everyone says Mr McKinley will be the next President.

How delightful Nikko must be, I imagine you are there.

I hope you have had no more earthquakes.

Very truly yours

Spencer

66. Bishop Edward Bickersteth to Satow (p. 116 in file)

BISHOPSTOWE,

13, IGURA, AZABU, TOKYO

Private

7 July 1896

My dear Sir Ernest Satow,

Certainly all these marriages at Kobe & Osaka were not of the kind to which you especially refer.

A much larger number of marriages not under the consular act have, I believe, taken place at

Yokohama. I asked the Archdeacon to obtain the numbers for you, but he does not seem to have done it. In looking over old correspondence on this matter I came across the enclosed, which you may like to look at – a lawyer's letter and a copy of a letter by Lord Clarendon referred to by the lawyer.

Lord Clarendon's letter seems to put the legality of marriages performed by English clergy in Japan beyond dispute, and I think you might deem it well in writing to Lord Salisbury to point out that this is so, and that we are not in anxiety on this point.

Again is it possible that though a certificate cannot be given under the seal of the General Registry Office, yet some other form of duly certified copy of the register might be issued? Whether this is possible I do not at all know, but if it is I imagine that it would cover all needs.

Thanks for taking trouble in this matter.

Yours Very Truly

Edw: Bickersteth

Pray have a copy made of Lord Clarendon's letter, if you so desire.

67. T.S. Gowland ²² to Satow (p. 118 in file)

YOKOHAMA UNITED CLUB

NO 5 BUND

31st July 1896

Sir,

On my return from Tokio this afternoon I found your letter of the 29th inst. awaiting me.

I had already partly anticipated its purport, for on leaving Viscount Katsura this morning I called at the Legation in order that I could if you so wished inform you of the result of the interview.

I called on Viscount Katsura at ten o'clock and was received by Mr. Okubo his private secretary (whom I knew in a similar capacity with the late Governor, Count Kabayama) and a man whom I judged to be a Naval Aide-de-Camp and ushered into the presence of Viscount Katsura who received me very graciously and extended his hand.

I told him that I was indebted to the honor of the interview to you, Sir, and that you considered that by the Governor becoming acquainted with the foreign merchants and their wants much would be done to encourage and promote the industries of the island in which our own lives for the most part had been spent and in whose prosperity we were so keenly interested. I told him of the untouched resources of Formosa, and how we trusted and felt assured in his hands they would be developed. He replied that he

²² T.S. Gowland of Cass & Co. Amoy visited Satow at Lake Chuzenji on 23 July 1896 to talk about his petroleum tanks at Tamsui, Formosa. Satow said he would try to arrange an interview with Ito for him. (Diary)

would do all he could to foster trade and to promote a good feeling with foreigners, he admitted that perhaps needless friction had been caused during the past few months by the fact that the island had been but lately acquired, but hoped that under his rule and that when the people realized that life & property would be secure that such friction would vanish and that eventually the foreigners would be led to leave Amoy and take up their residences permanently in Formosa &c. &c.

Much more followed in the same strain, during which I managed to say that we foreigners felt so secure under His Excellency that we proposed carrying out all the industries which the war and the subsequent rebellion had stopped, and instanced the Tanks for Bulk Oil.

I also told him that although a military man himself yet he could not be blind to the fact that in the present day very severe competition attended Trade & that we looked for enlightened and generous treatment in our endeavours to further the Tea trade and the Sugar trade as well, the two main staples of the island barring Camphor a too complex question to open up in a two hours interview.

So far our conversation had been mainly trade and compliments, when I was asked by him somewhat suddenly what in my opinion was the cause of the internal troubles existing in Formosa. It was a difficult question to answer situated as I was, fearing to give offence and yet desirous of helping even in the slightest degree the unfortunate people in Formosa. I knew of the barbarities perpetrated by the troops, which are the main cause of all the trouble, and yet I dared not tell His Excellency so – so I told him that although faults might be on both sides yet I attributed much of the trouble to the fact that the Japanese authorities garrisoned villages with small isolated detachments of troops free from control and but too frequently merely in charge of a non-commissioned officer – that and a want of “touch” with the people I told him were the elements to blame. I instanced India and told him how many points of similarity existed between that country and Formosa – how we had after subduing warlike tribes made ourselves acquainted with the language and customs of the people, and how we had by infinite patience caused these people to feel proud of English rule – and how out of their most warlike tribes for ages antagonistic to our rule we were now able to recruit our best and most courageous soldiers – and I told him that I felt certain such a result could be attained by Japan in Formosa. I instanced the Straits settlements as well where we ruled a large population of Chinese immigrants from Amoy (the same province that peoples Formosa) by mere civil rule, by a Protectorate composed of Cadets educated in the Amoy dialect in Amoy under the supervision of HBM Consul, a system they could easily adapt by using the Japanese Consul in Amoy for the purpose.

His Excellency seemed to listen to me with interest whether simulated or not I am not sufficiently versed in Japanese Diplomacy to say, but I do hope that perhaps a little I said may perhaps do some good.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

His Excellency said they were going to start schools to instruct the people in Japanese but I told him how difficult it was for old people and even grown up people to learn a new language and begged him not to abandon the idea of having Student Interpreters on that account – he also said he was going to devote great attention to making roads and improving sanitation to which I begged him to add good pure water and an ample supply of it if possible and light i.e. to light up the streets of the towns in Formosa after dark.

His Excellency asked me if there was anything I had to ask for on behalf of myself or firm – to which I replied that we had nothing to ask for.

The interview lasted two hours and conversation was sustained throughout so that I did not even take my leave before I had been pressed several times to remain longer.

Mr. Okubo officiated as interpreter throughout. General Katsura never showed in any way that he knew English or German – so I never assumed that he did – but addressed him through Mr. Okubo.

I am going back to Amoy by the P. & O. Verona on Sunday & before leaving I beg Sir to tender you very respectfully my sincere thanks for the very kindly assistance you have rendered to my mission in Japan.

I have the honor to remain Sir

Your Excellency's obedient servant

T.S. Gowland

68. Bishop Bickersteth to Satow (p. 124 in file)

BISHOPSTOWE,

13, IGURA, AZABU, TOKYO

Oct. 2. 1896.

My dear Sir Ernest,

The statements you quote – as far as the English Church Mission in Japan are concerned – are wholly incorrect.

Then [] English clergy in Japan among them I only know of one who is employed – perhaps for half his time – in secular teaching. Several others have evening classes &c. The great majority are engaged only in direct evangelistic work, or in the training of theological students. In the few cases where secular education is undertaken, it is in connection with missionary efforts. Besides the 40 clergy there are 3 laymen and some 45 ladies in connection with the English Church Missions. The three laymen give their time chiefly to education, partly religious partly secular – one in an industrial school for Ainu lads in Hakodate, two at Kobe in a mixed school for Japanese, Eurasians &c. Of the 45 ladies

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

I can only think of 6 who give most of their time to education. Perhaps half of the time or rather more, which they spend in this way, would be given to secular education. The other 39 are engaged in direct mission work.

The second statement was not wholly true even till two years ago. There were even then places in Japan where missionaries resided on travelling passports at the request of the authorities. Since the new arrangement came in, though in some cases passports are obtained through the Mombusho, I have heard of only one case in which this has been required as a condition of residence. The case in question was in Tokyo, and I wrote about it at the time to Mr. Trench. I fancy the difficulty to have been due merely to the [] of a subordinate official. So far as I have heard, the way in which the passport rules have been interpreted during the last two years has been such as to prevent any embarrassment to missionaries.

Yours very sincerely,

Edw. Bickersteth

Bishop

69. James Dodds [?] to Satow (p. 126 in file)

Yokohama

14th Octr. 1896.

My dear Sir Ernest,

Replying to your note of yesterday on the subject of the payment to Trench[?] on account of the installation of the electric light in the Legation my records confirm the goods exactly as you state them, but I further find that at Longford's special request I sent him a Receipt (presumably to be used as a Voucher) for the whole amount, as per enclosed press copy extracted from my Letter Book.

I think there will be no difficulty in getting a formal Receipt from Trench – or the Office of Works might get it from him direct on application to him, his address being 30 Pont[?] Street, London S.W.

The Bank here would doubtless be willing to give a Certificate that they had received from you a certain amount on a certain day on Trench's account, but that would scarcely I think be what the Office of Works requires as a Receipt.

I will not fail to write to Trench by the next mail and prepare him for a demand from the Office of Works for a Receipt or suggest to him that he should anticipate it.

Yours sincerely

Jas. Dodds [? name unclear]

70. F.W. Eastlake to Satow (p. 128 in file)

[Ans 30/Oct/96 enclosing a note for F.V. Dickins]

H.E. Sir Ernest M. Satow

H.B.M. Minister

etc., etc.

Your Excellency,

Re my book "Heroic Japan", I have concluded to go next month to the United States and England to deliver a series of lectures on Japanese subjects, particularly the recent War with China. Now, might I request Your Excellency to reply in a word to the following questions:-

Do you not think that by lecturing in Great Britain and the United States, I cannot materially increase the sale of the book? It is not by any means a question of profitable lecturing but of profitable advertising. Again would not such a course not only redound to the benefit of Great Britain's America's and Japan's mutual interests and to their honour? And finally, this being my firm intention, might I ask Your Excellency for, say, one or two letters of introduction in England?

Pardon my rudeness in putting these questions. The briefest of replies will confer a signal kindness on

Your Excellency's most obedient and grateful

F.W. Eastlake

Yobanchō, Tuesday (27 Oct. 96)

71. Dr. L. Lönnholm to Satow (p. 130 in file)

Tokyo, 24 Dec. 96

Your Excellency,

In Japanese law, „lease” chintaisaku” 賃貸借, is a right quite different from „superficies” chijōken 地上権; the latter being not at all a „lease” in the proper sense of the word, but an independent „real” right, bukken – vide art. 175ff. -, while „lease” is a „saiken”, obligation, vide art. 399ff. – Therefore the „lease” is treated upon among the provisions on „contracts”. The English expression „long lease” is misleading if applied to Japanese law, as it is apt to raise the wrong idea that „superficies” is a kind of lease.

The difference between „superficies” and „lease” is this:

A man who acquires the right of superficies on land, becomes owner of the buildings; he alone has []. Therefore he may freely dispose of them, sell them, destroy them, do with them whatever he likes.

A man who acquires a lease on land, has no ownership – [] on the buildings, but his right is

restricted to the use of them.

According to the provisions on „lease” – art. 601-602 – a lease cannot exceed the term of twenty years. This provision is of course also applicable to Japanese subjects, as you will find on p. 23 under 5 of my book (hiring of things, which includes „lease”). On p. 30 I only spoke of the rights of foreigners, so I had no reason to repeat my former explanations.

After all the foreigners may

1. lease land or buildings for no more than 20 years.

2. acquire the right of superficies

a) for an indefinite term b) for a fixed term

In the case of 2a, i.e. if the parties have omitted to fix the term in the contract itself, such term will be fixed on application by the Court from 20 to 50 years. In the case of 2b, however, if a certain time is fixed in the contract itself, the will of the parties thus expressed absolutely determines the duration of the „superficies”, and no Court is entitled to shorten the period determined upon by the parties. So you may acquire the right of superficies for 100 or 200 years. But a „superficies” granted not for a certain span of time but „for ever” would fall under 2a and only last 20-50 years.

These are the facts. It is a pity that Yokohama newspapers have thrown a glamour upon them.

May I ask Your Excellency to regard these lines as private?

I am always ready to answer your questions as to Japanese law.

In haste!

Your obedient servant,

Dr. L. Lönnholm

72. Typed document (pp. 132-133 in file)

Subject: Contract between Tokyo Fu and Messrs. Okura & Co. as agents for Messrs. Macfarlane, Strang & Co. of Glasgow to supply about 10,000 tons of Cast Iron Water Pipes.

132

A Contract was taken, with the Tokyo Fu, by Messrs Okura & Co, as agents for Messrs Macfarlane, Strang & Co., Ltd., of Glasgow, to supply about 10,000 tons of Cast Iron Water Pipes.

Though nominally only acting as agents, in Japan, Messrs Okura & Co. are really the principals, in Japan, as the responsibility of the Makers & Shipping Agents ceases when the pipes are delivered alongside of the ship, at Yokohama.

Of the Pipes already examined by the Tokyo Fu officials, the following divisions have been made by the Tokyo Fu officials,-

Pipes which have been damaged in transport; those which are short of the contract weight; those with flaws in, which will be taken at a reduced price, those which have flaws, and will be cut down and taken at a reduction; those which differ in size, from the contract, those wrongly numbered, and those pipes which will not be accepted at any price.

The Fucho officials have a right to reject any pipes short of specified weight, though we think more latitude ought to be allowed, here. They are also right in rejecting pipes slightly cracked at spigot end, in transport, but the officials might be slightly guided by the fact that it is impossible to handle these pipes without some breakages.

As regards the pipes rejected for flaws, but which will be taken at a reduction, and those too, under the same head, which will be cut down in length, and taken at a reduction, an independent inspection, made by Messrs Barrie, and McNab, English engineers, in Japan, of repute, certifies that the flaws, so called by the Fucho officials, are not enough to warrant the rejection of the pipes in question.

Of the pipes rejected altogether, for flaws, Messrs Barrie and McNab think 20 % ought to be rejected, this would mean that relative to the whole contract, according to these gentlemen's ideas, about one percent of the castings ought to be rejected as faulty, but according to the inspection of the Fucho officials we shall, average, about, 15 %, fifteen percent rejection loss for faulty castings.

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Every pipe has been tested and inspected by an independent inspector, in Glasgow, and we have his certificate, for each batch.

Messrs Macfarlane, Strang & Co. have sent pipes to all of the large water works of the world, have supplied Paris and Berlin, South America, and India. Pipes have been supplied, by Glasgow makers, to Osaka, Nagasaki, Hakodate.

73. R.J. Kirby to Satow (p. 134 in file, undated)

Dear Sir Ernest,

Very many thanks for your note. I'll tell Mr. Okura, privately, what you say. I am sure some good will result from what you have done.

I remain, Sir Ernest

Yours faithfully

R.J. Kirby

Monday

74. Handwritten note (p. 135 in file)

["5000 tsubos land

17000 water

Old camber 7000 tsubo"]

According to confidential information supplied by Mr. Nakada it is intended to build as an addition to the Customs-house accommodations in Kobe

1. One Godown (106 tsubo)

2. Two Sheds (Uwaya, 600 tsubo)

and the necessary funds for this undertaking have been inserted in the draft of next year's Budget, to be brought before the coming session of the Diet.

75. A.R. Colqhoun²³ to Satow (p. 136 in file)

["ans. 23/2/87"]

c/o Hongkong & Shanghai Bank,

Tientsin

Jan. 28, 1897

Private

Dear Satow,

I write to tell you that I have returned to China, as representative of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank in a financial Anglo-German combination, with the object of having railways put on a proper basis (somewhat on the lines of the Imperial Customs) in connection with tariff revision. You are aware that there are concession-hunters from various countries in China and that France and Russia are seeking exclusive rights in various directions. Our attempt is founded on the grounds that the interests of

²³ Archibald Ross Colqhoun (1848-1914) was the first Administrator of Southern Rhodesia (1890-92).

England & Germany are so similar and that all they should try for is a fair field and no favour. China may yield in this matter, as she is becoming aware that without such a step no revision of the tariff & no restoration of credit are possible.

I shall be obliged if you will let me have a note showing result, financially & politically, of the Japan railways, what they have done for the country &c. No elaborate statement is required, but the broad results, which may prove useful in dealing with the question here.

You have noticed the fiasco in South Africa, which will throw light on the difficulty of my position as the first Administrator of the B.S.A. Coy. I was with Mr. Rhodes at the inception of the Coy, went in with the Pioneers, and established the administration on a solid basis before I left and was replaced by Dr. Jameson. Since then I have been in the United States and again in Central America, to examine the Nicaragua Canal project, on which I wrote a book "The Key of the Pacific".

Our position has been much weakened here since 1894 and so long as the present situation lasts we are bound to lose step by step. United, England & Germany would be very powerful here; disunited they are powerless. I wish I could see you, to have a talk over matters in the Far East, and perhaps I may run over and see you in the Spring, for that purpose. I hope your health keeps good and that you like your return to old ground.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

A.R. Colquhoun

76. John C. Budd ²⁴ to Satow (p. 137 in file)

Chartered Bank of India

11 February '97

Dear Sir Ernest

I am greatly obliged for the letter of introduction you have so kindly given me to Count Matsugata which I will send him on his return to Tokio with an application in Japanese for the favour of an interview. I will at once let you know the result of my visit after seeing him. Mr. Shand has been so good as to give his services as interpreter.

I thank you also very much for the information regarding the articles in two native papers which I shall endeavour to procure.

I am,

²⁴ On February 10th Satow had a talk with J. Budd in Yokohama about finance. "He confirms what Okuma said about Bank of Japan not having actually in its vaults all the gold and silver coins and bullion shown in the balance sheet. The difference is with the Specie bank in London." (Diary)

Dear Sir Ernest,

Yours very sincerely

John C. Budd

77. A.R. Colquhoun to Satow (p. 138 in file)

c/o Hongkong & Shanghai Bank,

Tientsin, China, Feb. 11. 97

Private

My dear Satow,

In continuation of my last [no. 75 above], asking you to kindly let me have the best information procurable as to the financial results of the Japanese railways, direct and indirect, to the State, I now write further on the subject.

It is proposed to attempt to induce the Chinese Govt. to put railways on a proper basis (somewhat on the lines of the Impl. Customs) with a view to the rehabilitation of their credit and beginning reforms, which will strengthen the country. A powerful Anglo-German combination is prepared to let them have, at a low rate, a large Railway loan for the purpose, provided there is a guarantee, in the shape of European control, of efficient and honest administration.

There has recently been a change in German policy, seemingly, since the Revelations [], but the financial support is still solid, and the Govt. policy may change. For the present it would seem to be “non-intervention” and the maintenance of friendly relations with Russia. In view of the present position, it is most advisable in our interests that this general railway project should go through. You are aware what the policy of Russia and France is, concessions north and South, and to this is now included the possible danger of Germany acting with them on similar lines, which would tend towards gradual partition. Towards raising the general railway question, it may be advisable to press for Kiao-chow being made a treaty port, and to ask, on behalf of the Anglo-German combination, for the concession (similar to the French and Russian ones) of a Ry. [Railway] from that port to Peking. This line would run through a good country, rich in coal & iron, and ending in a treaty port, would be some guarantee against the southern movement of Russia. Such a proposal would, it is hoped, lead to some decision as to the general railway scheme being arrived at by the Chinese Govt., or, if not, at least the Kiao-chow – Peking line would place a barrier in the path of Russia.

I presume either of these measures would meet with the approval of Japan, for she cannot wish to see China further weakened, and Russia further strengthened, at her cost.

Kindly consider these points, which I send you very roughly put, as I write in great hurry, and

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

communicate with Sir Claude MacDonald on the subject of how Japan would view these proposals.

I am in communication with Sir Claude, whom I saw frequently at Peking, and I return these at once.

Li and his party are striving hard for increased power, and seemingly with some success. Sheng ²⁵, the "Great Amalgamator" of China, is negotiating with Americans and Belgians (in French) and protesting (too much, perhaps) that he suffers perversely from embarras des richesses. He cannot last long, unless we back down altogether and allow Russia to bolster up Sheng financially, and thus practically control China. There is, in my opinion, grave danger in this, as the Russian Finance Minister, through so-called Banks, can at any time advance moneys, silently and unobtrusively.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

A.R. Colquhoun

I presume that Japan continues to be well informed regarding China. She ought to be at the present time.

78. Satow to J.H. Brooke (Copy of letter with abbreviations, p. 141 in file)

Copy

Tokio

Feb. 12./ 97

Dr. Mr. Brooke,

C. refce. to our conversn. of the 10th, I observe a para. in the Gazette of this date giving a résumé of what had appeared in the Asahi on that subj[ect]. Both the existing press law & its modifications are correctly given there, & it is therefore unnecessary that I shd. send you a translation of the provision in question.

Under the existing treaty it appears to be held at home that no right of publishing newspapers is conferred, & whether the wording of the new treaty goes any further in this direction is open in my opinion to doubt. It would be diff[icult] I think for me to approach the Japse. Govt. officially on this subject without first obtaining the instructions of H.M.G. If you address me officially, I shall prob. find it necessary to send a copy of your letter home before taking any further steps.

y. f.

E.S.

J.H. Brooke Esq.

Yoko.

²⁵ Sheng Xuanhuai/Hsuan-huai (1844-1916), Director-General of Chinese National Railways. His efforts to nationalize the railways in 1911 began the crisis which overthrew the Qing dynasty. Satow came across him frequently when he was British Minister in Peking.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

79. John C. Budd to Satow (p. 143 in file)

Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China [printed]

Yokohama, 12 April 1897

Dear Sir Ernest,

You will remember you were so good as to give me a letter of introduction to Count Matsugata a short while since, to enable me to lay before him proposals for a gold loan, which it was rumoured the Government intended to raise in the home markets. Nothing came of it at the time, but Mr. Yokoyama has more than once recently spoken to me with regard to the chances of the London market taking up Japanese Government Securities, which I told him I thought was unlikely unless some special endorsement was offered. On Friday he came with a distinct proposal, which he stated he was authorized to make, & I accordingly at once wired my Head Office as per enclosed copy.

I will inform you directly I receive a reply, and if the business goes through, I presume the necessary guarantees will have to be registered at the Legation & I venture to hope I may once again receive your kind assistance.

The following reply from our Singapore to my enquiry as to the probable amount of Silver Yen held in the Straits Settlements will no doubt interest you and perhaps also H.E. the Finance Minister. Lender[?] date 25th ulto: the Manager there wrote – “Yen in the Straits. It is difficult to form any estimate of the amount of Japanese Silver Yen in circulation here available for return to Japan as there are no statistics on the subject but we have set down the total in the Straits and Native[?] States at about \$10,000,000.”

I am, Dear Sir Ernest,

Yours very truly,

John C. Budd

Enclosed copy of telegram

80. Tom Thomas to Satow (p. 146 in file)

Yokohama, April 30/97

Dear Sir Ernest,

We were sorry to be deprived of your presence at the Races yesterday, ²⁶ but I can quite understand

²⁶ Satow went to Yokohama on April 28th and drove with Lowther to the race course “but when we got

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/14. September 1895-April 1897)

your having much to do with your early departure [to England for the Diamond Jubilee] and I can scarcely say how sorry we were to have had you come down on Wednesday without knowing we had postponed the Races in consequence of the rain. Mr. Knaff promised to wire to Tokio and I believe he did so, but must have quite forgotten to let you know.

I put the matter of your leaving before the Committee yesterday, and I need scarcely say that I received a unanimous desire from all that you should kindly retain the post of our President during your absence if you will kindly consent to do so, as there is not likely to be special need of any services that the Vice S. Wheeler cannot perform, seeing that the Court Mourning will prevent His Majesty's attendance for another meeting.

Yesterday we had fine weather and good sport and today promises everything in favor of pretty frocks and good sport too, so that we are of course sorry you cannot be with us to enjoy the prosperity and good favor of the Nippon Race Club.

Yours very truly,

Tom. Thomas

[End of file]

there, found races had been put off." (Diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (October 1897 – April 1900)

1. A.G. Boscawen¹ to Satow (handwritten, p. 2 in file)

Oct. 9. 97

Speldhurst

Nr. Tunbridge Wells

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I was very sorry that when you were over this year I missed seeing you – but between the Parliamentary Session and the Jubilee I did not find it easy to have time for doing half the things one wanted to do.

You will remember I am sure Miss Taylor, my cousin, who was travelling with us in Japan two years ago. May I now introduce her sister, who intends to follow her lead & pay a visit to Japan also? I feel sure that you will do what you can to make her stay in Tokio pleasant, & shall be very much obliged if you will.

Y[ou]rs. very truly

A.G. Boscawen

2. F. Brinkley² to Satow (handwritten, p. 4 in file)

1 Dec. 97

Wednesday

My dear Sir Ernest,

Looking at your letter of yesterday and recalling our conversation I am afraid that by silence I may seem to endorse what seems a wrong impression. I am disposed to think that your information points to pressure having been brought to bear on [Walter] Denning by the school authorities. His letters to me, however, speak in the highest terms of the conduct of the school authorities throughout. They supported him in his opposition, maintained that he

¹ Arthur Sackville Trevor Griffith-Boscawen (Arthur Griffith-Boscawen) was Conservative M.P. for Tunbridge, 1892-1906.

² Captain Francis (Frank) Brinkley (1841-1912) was an Irish newspaper owner, editor and scholar who lived in Japan for over 40 years. He has a Wikipedia entry and see also Hoare, James E., "Captain Francis Brinkley (1841–1912): Yatoi, Scholar and Apologist" in *Britain & Japan: Biographical Portraits*, Volume III (edited by James E. Hoare). London: Japan Library, 1999.

ought not to be taxed³ & sympathised with him. The Director drafted his Japanese letters of explanation for him, and altogether they appear to have been kind and loyal. The students took no notice whatever of the affair. The trouble is, I think, that in Japan at present there are a number of irresponsible young men – they might be called “soshi” – who try to make cheap capital out of every incident in which a foreigner is concerned.

Dening is just the sort of tactless individual to play, unwittingly, into the hands of such people.

Yours very truly

F. Brinkley

3. Archdeacon A.C. Shaw to Satow (handwritten, p. 6 in file)

[Ans 7/12]

Matsumoto

Decr. 4th 1897

My dear Sir Ernest

I had hoped to have seen you before I left Tokyo but was too busy for the last day or two. I wanted to speak to you about the consular marriages. A good many years ago now it was settled that they were not necessary in Tokyo. S Andrews being appointed by the Minister as the Legation Chapel. During your absence however a marriage took place at the Consulate and it was arranged without my knowing of the Consular marriage that there should be a service in S. Andrews. I have the gravest objections to the Church's service being performed for those who are already legally married. If both are necessary – which the Law Officers of the Crown have decided they are not – then the Church's service should come first. I am writing now because I understand a marriage is to take place shortly in Tokyo.

I am staying here for a few days with the Kennedys. They are excellent missionaries leading as you may imagine a very lonely life and I like to pay them a visit as late as possible in the Autumn since they are unlikely to see foreigners again for a good many months. The pass is pretty difficult now as it has snow on it. The Hida mountains, which I can see from where I sit – a few miles away – are magnificent. You would enjoy a visit here.

³ Satow had a “tough argument” with Komura about Dening, maintaining that the Japanese government had no right to tax a foreigner. (Diary, 25 November 1897)

Yours ever

A.C. Shaw

4. John Stiven to Satow (handwritten, p. 8 in file)

Private [ans 15/12/97]

Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China [printed letterhead]

Yokohama, 10th Dec. 1897

Dear Sir Ernest,

As promised yesterday I beg to enclose copies of a few letters which I have recently sent to India on the currency question. I have not kept copies of my last letters to Arthur, President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce (whom I knew very well in Bombay) and so I would supplement these enclosures with a few remarks.

At the present moment silver bullion is utilized as currency in various parts of India, the present price being about Rs. 73 for 100 lalabs 17 dwt betterness. When the Indian mints were open to the coinage of silver with a seignorage of 21 per mille (seignorage 2% other charges 1 per mille) the outturn of silver 17 dwt. betterness was about Rs. 106 3/8 per 100 totales. What I now propose to do is to stereotype the present current market value of about Rs 73. The step is, I believe, justifiable in view of the fact that the Permanent Land Settlement of Bengal &c. in Lord Cornwallis' time (I think) is an irretrievable mistake, and I do not see how the revenues of India can be augmented otherwise, without risk of outcry. The step would in my opinion be the complement of the legislation of 1893, which fixed the value of the rupee at 1/4d. It is perhaps just as well that the step was not taken in 1893, because now it must be apparent that it is justifiable whereas then it could not have been apparent. The legislation was admittedly a step in the dark, but now there is more light.

Then, as regards America, they must bow to the fact that an ounce of fine silver is not worth more than 60 cents gold, and that the intrinsic value of their silver dollar is not more than 2 shillings.

For purposes of internal circulation it can still be called nominally 4 shillings but for purposes of reserve against a paper currency note issue it should not be considered worth more than 2 shillings. This will be a bitter pill for America to swallow but there is no use in blinking [?] facts and America is a great country and would soon get over the loss once it is faced.

As regards China & Straits I think it should remain on a silver basis, with a dollar of 2

shillings. There can be no big seignorage or mint tax in that country. You are no doubt aware of the great resistance made by the compradore class in North China to the introduction of a coinage currency, the reason being that they have a squeeze of 2%, sometimes more on the conversion of silver bars into sycee,⁴ a most iniquitous charge when we remember that civilized Governments like the British Indian and Japanese only charge 1% for turning silver into coins.

The benefit of steadying the [] of Chinese exchanges, which would I believe be the result of my proposals being adopted, would in itself be very considerable, but it would not stop there. If America should fall in with the idea the benefit would be universal.

I shall not trouble you with any further writing on the subject, but am ready at any time to answer any questions or to talk the matter over with you. I need scarcely add that I would be very glad indeed to have the benefit of your opinion, after you have had time to consider my proposals.

I am,

Dear Sir Ernest,

Yours very faithfully

J. Stiven

5. John Stiven to Satow (handwritten, p. 11 in file)

Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China [printed letterhead]

Yokohama, 21st Dec. 1897

Dear Sir Ernest,

I should be much obliged if you will [be] so kind as to pass on my letters on the currency question to Mr. T.B. Glover, who has expressed a wish to see them and will return them to you after perusal.

When I was up in Tokio on Sunday meeting some of the members of the Meiji Club, it was felt that it would be a good thing if something to promote social intercourse between the Japanese and Europeans. It has occurred to us that a great step in this direction would be taken if a Golf Club were started either in Tokio or Yokohama open to all. There is nothing like outdoor games for bringing men together in a friendly way. The Japanese ought to take to cricket or football like the Parsees and Hindus, and play matches with Europeans.

As regards golf there is a difficulty in Yokohama, there being no ground to play on

⁴ A sycee was a type of silver or gold ingot currency used in China until the 20th century.

unless Government can be induced to give us the inside of the Race Course, and seeing that it is under cultivation perhaps that is too much to ask. I wonder how much it would take to buy the cultivators out. But in Tokio surely there would be no difficulty about ground. If you can assist in promoting a scheme for a golf club on the lines indicated it would be a great boon to many, as it is not every one who cares to play cricket or football, whereas golf can be played from boyhood to old age.

Believe me,

Yours very truly

J. Stiven

6. T.W. Hellyer to Satow⁵ (handwritten, p. 13 in file)

Hellyer & Co. [printed letterhead]

Kobe, 6 January 1898

Dear Mr. Satow,

There is [a] gentleman Russell L. Dunn going by the "Coptic" to America & he is desirous of having a private interview. He has come from Vladivostok & from the few words I have had with him I am sure you will be glad to meet him. Mr. Dunn will only be in Yokohama a day or so: he arrives there about noon Friday & I expect the steamer will sail Saturday evening or daylight Sunday. Mr. Dunn wishes to see you without being seen by any Russians & it would be best for him not to have to call at the Legation. I happen to know Mr. Dunn (an American mining engineer who has travelled professionally in Siberia) & I feel confident that whatever he tells you will be reliable. I am sending this by my own messenger from my Yokohama office and the same messenger will take any note or message for Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn will go to Tokio to see you or if you make an appointment will meet you in Yokohama.

Yours respectfully

T.W. Hellyer

Private

P.S. Mr. Dunn has to go to Tokio to see some Japanese official before he sails (on private business).

⁵ This is a letter of introduction for Russell L. Dunn who visited Satow by appointment on January 8, 1898. (Diary)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

7. G. Goodwin to Satow (handwritten with letterhead, p. 15 in file)

[Ans. 29/3 sending 1 £1 stamp]

GEORGE A. GOODWIN

M. Inst C.E. A M Inst E.E. Whit[wort]h Sch[ola]r

CONSULTING ENGINEER

Telephone No. 3086

2 Victoria Mansions,

Victoria St.,

Westminster S.W.

London 21 Jany. 1898

Your Excellency

I hope you will kindly excuse my request, but can you send me a few of the old high value English postage stamps (over 10/-) one has such few opportunities of obtaining them here, & no doubt they would be very common with you. My wife & 2 boys also collect, so any duplicates would be much appreciated.

I hope Your Excellency remembers my visit to Japan in 1895/6 & will not forget to kindly mention my name when you think my services could be utilized.

With best wishes I remain,

Your Excellency's Very Oblg

George A. Goodwin

8. Bishop William Awdry to Satow (handwritten, p. 16 in file)

41 Imai Cho

Ayabu

Jan. 27. 1898

Dear Sir Ernest

I have not yet been able to call on you but hope to do so this afternoon as I am off to Matsumoto & Nagano tomorrow. With good weather it ought to be a grand walk over the mountains.

Thank you for speaking of a house. If we can we sh[oul]d. like to see it; & even if I cannot Mrs. Awdry who has now arrived & does not go with us into Shinshu may be able to do so.

Early next month we are to be at Nagoya for two or three days. Could you get passes to

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

see the castle for us two & also for Rev. J.C. & Mrs. Robinson, Miss Trent & Miss Young our missionaries there. If so w[oul]d. you be so kind as to send them to Mrs. Awdry at Archdeacon Shaw's where I touch on my way South West Feb. 6 & 7.

Believe me

Very sincerely yours

Wm. Awdry

Bishop

9. W. Silver Hall to Satow (handwritten with letterhead, p. 18 in file)

W. SILVER HALL WH. SC.

M. INST. C.E., M.I. MECH, E.

Cable Address: Silverhall, Tokyo

9-A TSUKIJI,

TOKYO,

JAPAN

2 Feb. 1898

Dear Sir,

I am sorry that I cannot give you any useful information respecting Mr. Arnold Pye-Smith. I remember him calling at the offices of Messrs. Takata & Co. for whom I act as consulting engineer, and I think we lunched together at the Club afterwards. He was then intending to leave Japan for England, making a short stay in the States en route. An examination of the passenger lists would no doubt give the date of his departure, & the route that he selected.

I may mention that Samuel Osborn (and Co.) of Sheffield, with whom I believe he was in partnership, is no connection of Samuel Osborn of Halifax, who is my wife's brother-in-law.

Regretting that I cannot assist you in the matter.

Yours very truly

W. Silver Hall

H.E. Sir Ernest M. Satow, K.C.M.G.

British Legation

Kojimachi

Tokyo

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

10. Richard J. Kirby to Satow (typed, p. 19 in file)⁶

⁶ Kirby called on Satow on 17 February 1898. (Diary)

Tokyo, February 24th, 1898.

15

Dear Sir Ernest,-

I have had the Cablegram repeated, and find the correct reading was,-

"John Brown & Co temporarily excluded India Office works on account of subordinates imitating Inspector's marks upon Railway Material; Guilty servants are all discharged; No Partners implicated; They will keep position Admiralty List; Mitsui already know, they have communicated with Japan."

I am acting on your kind advice, relative to this matter, and as I leave to-night for Hiroshima and Kure, I will take the opportunity of letting those interested know in a casual kind of way, in Kobe, Osaka and Kure.

I was speaking to you the other day with regard to my connection with Mr Okura. I might mention further, that for the past twelve years Mr Okura's firm has done all of its English business in metals and machinery with Messrs Jno. Birch & Co, Ltd., London. The firm which I represent in Japan. For the past nine years there has been no written agreement between the firms, but it has been understood that so long as each did its best for the business the connection would continue. I may mention that during this time I have practically run the details of the business at this end, and when Messrs Birch's interests were not harmed thereby, have practically worked for the interest of Mr Okura, as if I were in his employ. Mr Okura's staff, too, has been trained by me.

12

For the past two years, more especially since Mr Tasima^h, Mr Okura's late manager and partner died, there have been signs of disquiet.

Mr John Birch, principal of the firm, came out to Japan, and he left the other day hoping he had arranged for things to go on for at least two years more. But I am afraid that Japanese like Mr Okura's son-in-law, Mr Takashima, will not be satisfied until there is a change.

I might say that our firm, working in Tokyo as it does, has all along fought for British business against the French, Germans and Americans; and when German competition, through political influence, was so strong here, about eleven years ago, we held the breach in many a well fought battle.

Our first connection with Mr Okura came about by the fact that a Japanese friend advised me twelve years ago that it was impossible for him to give me, a Britisher, direct business because of the German political pressure, and advised me to try and work through a Japanese, and recommended Mr Okura.

Mr Okura I could manage, but I am afraid Mr Takashima is too much for me.

I can safely say that if, unfortunately, a rupture does occur, Mr Okura will soon have cause to repent, and he will be the loser, as he can never hope to be served so well as he has been, by a firm of the standing and business capacity of Messrs Birch & Co.

I remain, dear Sir Ernest,

Yours faithfully,

Richard J. Kirby

11. J.P. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with letterhead, p. 20 in file)

MOLLISON & CO. [printed]

No. 48 Yokohama [printed]

28 Feb'y 1898

My dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for your kind note and we were sorry you could not be present yesterday as the music was first class & most enjoyable. We hope however to have Mr. Junker & Mr. Ellis on another occasion & shall be glad if you are able then to join us.

The paragraph you refer me to in the New Treaty was what I relied on for my opinion on the Cricket Ground question & I think it covers the point. I don't think it would be advisable to ask the Govr. of Kanagawa anything about the matter, as it would be a pity to give him the idea that we had any doubts about the fixity of our tenure.

Has the question of the new picul even been considered, which is supposed to come into force with the New Treaties? The present picul as you know is 1.33.33.3th English & the new one is to be 1.32.277, a difference of 3/4%. We'd like to sell on the latter & buy on the former weight per picul as no doubt would the Japanese, & friction is found to arise unless the picul to be used in Commerce is agreed upon before hand. It seems a pity to have changed the weight so long recognised and understood by everyone. The matter is now being discussed here.

Yours sincerely

James P. Mollison

12. J.P. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with letterhead, p. 21 in file)

MOLLISON & CO. [printed]

No. 48 Yokohama [printed]

4th March 1898

My dear Sir Ernest

I am much obliged for your note of 2nd and for your remarks on the picul question, which however do not by any means meet the point, because although "hyakkin" is undoubtedly a Japanese weight, representing as nearly as possible 132277th avoirdupois, the picul of Commerce both here & in China means 133 1/3d in English. When I buy a picul of Tea and sell a picul of Yarn the latter quantity in English, weighed on an English Scale, is meant

and understood. The term picul I take it was imported into Japan from China, when probably by mutual agreement it was understood to mean $133 \frac{1}{3}$ d for simplicity of calculation without a fraction, and I remember turning pounds into piculs and piculs into pounds by subtracting $\frac{1}{4}$, or adding $\frac{1}{3}$ d was my first commercial lesson when I reached Canton. To say now that a picul shall be understood to mean 1.32.277th only, besides being an extremely awkward fraction to deal with, is bound to cause friction both in Imports & Exports, because a Japanese would expect to get the customary 400th – 3 piculs exactly to his Bale of Yarn, not 397, just as I'd expect to get 13.333th to my picul of tea, not 13.227th only.

Yours sincerely

James P. Mollison

[ans. 5/3. suggesting exchange of views betw[een]. Chambers of Commerce & memorializing respective Auth[oritie]s. (but not Doyen).]

13. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with letterhead, p. 22 in file)

MOLLISON & CO. [printed]

No. 48 Yokohama, 8th March 1898

My dear Sir Ernest,

Thanking you for your note of 5th March. I am sorry you think it will be such a difficult matter to rearrange the picul question. It will no doubt crop up in the Annual Meeting next week when I shall bear your suggestions in mind. It is one of those little things we are brought face to face with when considering the near approach of the New Tariff, & another is the very enormous duties that some articles will have to pay under the square yard system, the increase being much greater I fancy than ever was dreamed of when it was agreed in an offhand sort of way to make the basis 10% instead of 5% ad valorem. In this connection the enclosed list of Chief articles of Import with old i.e. present duty, & new duty shown, will doubtless interest you.

Canadian Mails I hear will now be made [] here via Vancouver & New York thereby saving the 6 days I alluded to in my letter to the Manchester Guardian when I was last at home. Do you know if it is true? By the way too, I'd be much obliged for any information about the date when the New Tariff shall come into force.

Yours sincerely

James P. Mollison

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

[Ans. 9/3/98]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

COMPARATIVE TABLE, SHOWING PRESENT AND FUTURE
DUTIES (*AS PER BRITISH TREATY*), ON YARNS
AND COTTON AND WOOLLEN PIECE GOODS.

Yarns & Blankets 100 cat's. Piece Goods 100 pieces.	Length Yards.	Width Inches.	Contents in Square Yards.	Rate Bu son p. 10 yards.	Duty Bus.	At 31.5 sen Yen.	New Rate per Square Yard.	Duty
						<i>old</i>		<i>New</i>
Cotton Yarn p. 100 catties	...	...	...	...	5.00	1.575	4.18	4.18
Woollen Yarn p 100 "	...	...	...	...	10.00	3 15	9.189	9.17
Blankets per 100 "	...	...	...	...	5.00	1.575	7.458	7.46
Grey Shirtings, 8½ lbs. ...	38½	50	4170 82	8½	33 69	10.612	0.006	25.03
do. 9 " ...	38½	45	4812 50	10	38.50	12.128	0.006	28.88
do. long ...	46	44	5622.21	10	46 00	14 49	0.006	33.73
do. ...	46	45	5750.00	10	46.00	14 49	0.006	34.50
do. ...	47	44	5744.43	10	47 00	14 805	0.006	34.47
do. ...	47	45	5875.	10	47.00	14 805	0.006	35.25
do. ...	48	44	5866 66	10	48 00	15 12	0.006	35.20
do. ...	48	45	6000.00	10	48.00	15 12	0.006	36.00
T. Cloths ...	24	32	2133.31	7½	18.00	5.67	0.009	19.20
Indigo Shirtings ..	12	44	1466 66	10	12.00	3.78	0.013	19.07
Silesias ...	30	30	2500.00	7½	22.50	7.088	0.011	27.50
Prints ...	24	30	2000.00	7½	18.00	5.67	0.012	24.00
Cotton Italians ...	30	32	2666.66	7½	22.50	7.088	0.017	45.33
do. ...	30	36	3000.00	8½	26.25	8.269	0.017	51.00
do. ...	30	40	3333.33	8½	26.25	8.269	0.017	56.67
Turkey Reds ...	24	30	2000.00	7½	18.00	5.67	0.012	24.00
do. ...	24	32	2133.33	7½	18.00	5.67	0.012	25.60
do. ...	25	30	2083.33	7½	18.75	5.906	0.012	25.00
do. ...	25	32	2222.00	7½	18.75	5.906	0.012	26.67
Velvets, Cotton ...	35	22	2138.88	20	70.00	22.05	0.041	87.69
Victoria Lawns ...	12	42	1400.00	10	12.00	3.78	0.006	8 40
Flannels ...	30	30	2500.00	45	135.00	42.525	0.044	110.00
do. ...	32	30	2666.66	45	144 00	45.36	0.044	117.33
Woollen Italians ..	30	32	2666.66	30	90.00	28.35	0.029	77 33
do. ...	30	36	3000 00	45	135.00	42.525	0.029	87.00
do. ...	30	40	3333.33	45	135.00	42.525	0.029	96.67
Mousselines de Laino ...	24	30	2000.00	30	72.00	22.68	0.021	42.00

14. H.S. Bickerton Brindley to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 24 in file)

March 24th 1898 [Ans. March 25th.]

3 AWOICHO, AKASAKA,
TOKYO, JAPAN

Dear Sir Ernest,

I returned to Tokyo from my trip South on the 6th inst. and would have written much sooner but that the information relating to the Dockyards which I got on my actual journey was so meagre that I determined, before communicating with you, to get something more detailed from my Japanese friends. This information they are now procuring for me, viz. the number, tonnage, armaments &c. of the warships now in course of construction, & those to be constructed, but up to the present it has not come to hand.

I feel, however, by my long silence after my return, that you might conclude I had forgotten the promise I gave to procure for you all information possible relating to the above subject and the object of this letter mainly is to assure you that I have not forgotten & that immediately I receive it I will at once forward it to you. But for the tardiness of my naval friends it would have been in your possession long ago.

At Sasebo they have no warships on the stocks. They are experiencing a great deal of trouble with their new dry dock – the soil sinking away all round it – and with the exception of a small Torpedo-gunboat (about 400 tons) shipbuilding is stopped. The whole of their attention is now being turned to the repairing of the said dock & extensions in the shape of new machine shops.

At Kuré my friend Capt. Kurokawa was ill & confined to the house. I could not see him and consequently could procure no reliable information as to the work going on in this Dockyard. This I will forward to you.

At Yokosuka I am informed that they are building the 3rd class cruiser “Akashi” (2700 tons) sister ship to the “Suma” – also a Torpedo Gun Boat “Chihaya” (850 tons) – and almost immediately they will lay the keel for a 1st class cruiser about 6000 tons – name not yet fixed.

I expect to be going South again very shortly in company with one of my directors Mr. Malcolm Hay of Vickers, as I have a few days back received a cable from Colombo stating that he arrives in Yokohama on the 5th of April.

Apologising for this delay in furnishing you with the information.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

Yours faithfully

H.S. Bickerton Brindley

15. Montague Kirkwood to Satow (handwritten, p. 25 in file)

Private

Tokyo 24 March 1898

My dear Satow

I enclose for your perusal 2 letters I have written to Curzon – one I alluded to last morning – the other I have written since seeing you – it refers to my nephew.

It would be very pleasing to me to know that you share my views with regard to Taiwan and the Revised Treaties. If you do would not it be possible to throw only hints to Ito and Nishi; now is the time for doing so.

Many thanks for saying you would be willing to have the youth as Honorary Attaché. If on second thoughts you would sooner be without him, do not hesitate to say so – and I will not write to Curzon or my brother. I shall not be in the very least hurt or offended.

Yours sincerely

Montague Kirkwood

16. T.L. Browning[?] to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 27 in file)

Chefoo Club

Chefoo

Ap. 14th 98

To Sir Ernest Satow

Sir

I intend visiting Japan this season with Mr. Sydney H. Morse, and would feel greatly obliged if you could arrange to give us a private engagement. I beg to refer you to Mr. Irwine, and Mr. J.P. Mollison Yokohama and enclose for your perusal a few cuttings. We arrive in Nagasaki about the 17th inst. where we intend to give a concert.

Awaiting your kind reply

Yours obediently

T.L. Browning

Address: c/o P.O. Nagasaki

17. André Bellessort⁷ to Satow (handwritten in French, p. 28 in file)

29 Avril 98. 28

Monsieur le Ministre,

Comme je dois quitter Tokyo demain
ou après demain pour un assez long
voyage dans le Sud, je ne veux pas
abuser plus longtemps de la permission
que vous m'avez donnée de lire votre
si intéressant recueil de Choses Japonaises.
Je vous rends en même temps le "Kinse
Shizaku" mais je garde encore, pour

⁷ André Bellessort (1866-1942) was a French poet in Japan 1897-8.

en achever la lecture au cours de mon voyage, le volume d'Hildreth.

Je ne saurais trop vous remercier, Monsieur le Ministre, de la bienveillance avec laquelle vous m'avez reçu et du précieux concours que vous m'avez accordé dans mon étude du Japon. Je suis très heureux si, à mon retour à Tokyo, vous me permettez d'aller encore vous voir et m'éclairer, si je puis dire, aux lumières de votre érudition.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, avec l'expression de ma vive reconnaissance, l'assurance de mon respectueux dévouement.

André Bellessort

18. Bishop Henry Evington to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 30 in file)

BISHOP'S LODGE,

9, DESHIMA, NAGASAKI.

31st May, 1898

My dear Sir Ernest,

I beg to thank you for the very full answer to my questions in reference the proposed marriage in Nagasaki, and for the accompanying documents which I found awaiting me on my return from Kagoshima. Mr Fuller⁸ who is the acting Chaplain here returned from England after I had written to you. Had he been here I need not have troubled you as he had already definite experience of a like case, having celebrated the marriage at the direct request of the Consul. However, I have now through your kindness definite documents to refer to for my own satisfaction.

Thanking you again for the trouble you have taken,

Believe me to remain

Dear Sir Ernest

Yours faithfully

Henry Evington

Bishop in Kiushiu

19. James Dodds to Satow (handwritten, p. 31 in file)

Yokohama

1st June 1898

My dear Sir Ernest,

I have this morning received the enclosed note from Robison, who has betaken himself into the country leaving the matter referred to as a legacy to me in his absence.

The note speaks for itself, but Robison does not say whether he has sent you copy of the Report. I presume however he has done so, otherwise you would not well be able to express your opinion as to the expedience of publishing or not. I may remark that I have not myself

⁸ Albert R. Fuller was a graduate of the Church Missionary Society College at Islington, London. He came as a missionary to China in 1882 and married Mary Ellen Smith the following year. He transferred to Nagasaki on March 21, 1889. In 1890 he became the first CMS missionary in Nagasaki to baptize a native Japanese. They had three children, the eldest one dying in the year of his birth, 1892. The Fullers remained in Nagasaki till 1909 when they returned to England. She died in 1932, he in 1934. (<http://www.nfs.nias.ac.jp/page042.html#AF> accessed 21 March 2014)

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

seen the Report referred to, but unless there is anything in it particularly offensive to the Japanese I think it should be published as a corollary to the first Report in the interests of “truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth”, expressed without fear or favor.

I shall be glad to be favored with your opinion

Meanwhile remain

Yours sincerely

Jas. Dodds

The original of the Report is I presume with the Secretary of the Committee.⁹

20. W. F. Mitchell to Satow (handwritten, p. 32 in file)

[Satow’s note: “replied as in my letter of today to Cornes & Co. (No. Misc.)”]

Yokohama

13th June 1898

Dear Sir Ernest,

By mail received from home today, I am informed that it is authoritatively stated in London, that notice of six months will be given by the Japanese Government before the new Customs Tariff is put into force.

From the remarks that you made privately just before leaving Yokohama last Friday, I judge that it would be dangerous to act upon this supposition, but before wiring in that sense to London I take the liberty to write & ask you if there is any foundation for this idea, & is it probable that so long a notice will be given?

Our interests in Japan are such that it is very important to get a definite opinion if it is obtainable, & under such circumstances I trust that you will excuse my troubling you in the matter.

I remain

Yours Sincerely

W. F. Mitchell [Director, Samuel Samuel & Co.]

21. W.F. Mitchell to Satow (handwritten, p. 34 in file)

Yokohama

15 June 1898

⁹ The Report referred to is presumably the one by the International Committee on Japanese prisons mentioned in Robison’s letter to Satow dated 19 May 1898 (PRO 30/33 6/13).

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

Dear Sir Ernest,

Accept my thanks for your prompt reply to my note.

It is evident that some mistake has arisen in London with regard to the notice to be given by the Japanese Government before the new duties are enforced. The information which you are kind enough to give us is of considerable value, inasmuch as it shows that six months notice cannot be depended upon, & is not likely to be given.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

W.F. Mitchell

22. Richard J. Kirby to Satow (typed, p. 36 in file)

Tokyo, June 30th, 1898.

36

Dear Sir Ernest,-

The dredger bought by the Russian Naval Dept. is one imported from Scotland ten years ago by Mr Okura. She steamed out from England to Yokohama, and cost Mr Okura £ 11,500 on her arrival. He gets Yen 88,700 for her when delivered at Nagasaki.

She is what is known as a Hopper Dredger. Her hopper capacity is about 250 tons, and she will easily dredge 250 tons of mud per hour. She cuts her own flotation, and dredges to a depth of 28 feet. She is self propelling and steams six knots.

She is far from being in first class order, but she will probably do about three years of good work. She will leave Nagasaki for Port Arthur about the 15th, prox. The Russians wish to employ the present Japanese crew to shew how she is worked for six months, and they will go I think, but they are asking three times their present wages.

An American who negotiated the sale told me that the Russians had made no appropriation for Vladivostok this year, but were putting all their money into Port Arthur, and intended spending about 2,000,000 on harbour improvements.

I give you the above in case it will be of interest to you, because I am an Englishman before other considerations.

I remain, dear Sir Ernest,

Yours faithfully

Richard J. Kirby

23. Richard J. Kirby to Satow (typed, p. 37 in file)

Tokyo, July 1st, 1898.

34

Dear Sir Ernest,

I unfortunately did not take a copy of the letter I sent you, but the cost to Mr Okura ten years ago was 11,500 pounds and the price the vessel is sold to the Russians for is 88,700 yen.

The sum mentioned to me as the one to be spent at once on improvements to the harbour was 2,000,000 yen. and the appropriation for the dredger was made by the St Petersburg Govt. to the Russian Admiral for the purpose.

I remain, dear Sir Ernest,

Yours faithfully,

R. J. Kirby

I met the two Naval Attaches of the Russian Govt. who live in Yokohama, and was surprised to hear from them how much they knew of the details of what was going on in naval works in Japan, their ^{exact} knowledge of small things [↑] apparently not worth their knowing about struck me as so thorough, and one could see they were alert for the slightest information they could get. Another thing that struck me at Okura's silver wedding was the "hail fellow well met" kind of terms these men were on with the members of the Chinese legation.

24. Mrs. Alice Longford to Satow (handwritten, p. 38 in file)

Nagasaki,

July 21st 1898

Dear Sir Ernest,

Thank you for the telegram you sent to me yesterday. It was a great surprise as only a few days ago I was told the probable date of our leaving Nagasaki and for ever so long letters have come to Mrs. Bonar here.

I do not know whether to be glad or sorry for I do not know if it means no step up for my husband. It will be a terrible blow to him if it is no promotion. Will you write as soon as you can to tell my husband definitely, it was very kind of you to telegraph, we can just catch the next Vancouver mail home.

Terence has gone home to school to prepare for the Navy.

With many thanks

Yours Sincerely

Alice Longford

25. Sir William Howard Russell¹⁰ to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead and first page framed in black, p. 40 in file)

[ans Sept 27/98]

August 11, 1898

TELEGRAMS: BALLYCLOUGH.

LONGUEVILLE

MALLOW

CO. CORK

Sir

On 24 May I was informed by Mr. Duncan Campbell C.M.G. of the London office of the Chinese Maritime Customs that he had received a telegram from Shanghai that my eldest son Mr. W.B. Russell Commissioner of Customs had died at Nagasaki on 26 May on his way home on sick leave. Up to the present moment I have had no information from the Consul at Nagasaki respecting the decease, the effects or the burial of my son & the only reference to the matter apart from letters of condolence &c. was contained in a letter from

¹⁰ William Howard Russell (1820-1907) was an Irish reporter with *The Times*, and is considered to have been one of the first modern war correspondents after he covered the Crimean War. Knighted in 1895. (Wikipedia)

Sir Robert Hart of June 4th in which he informed me that he had written for particulars & that he would forward me all the intelligence he could procure respecting the unexpected and melancholy death of one of his oldest & most trusted officials & personal friends. To me the neglect appears unjustifiable but I may be unreasonable. Five mails have come in since that of June 4th & as I have not heard from Sir Robert Hart I must presume he has not received the information for which he asked. My poor son can not have arrived at Nagasaki without baggage, clothes, money, watch, rings &c. I fear he was so ill when he was landed that he was quite at the mercy of those into whose hands he fell & who they were I know not. I cannot even take out Probate of his Will for I can show no official evidence of his death; but if the Consul or his representative had taken the smallest interest in what I presume was the discharge of his duties in such a case, he could have communicated with the Customs Commissioner at Shanghai & thus have relieved me from long & cruel anxiety for I know no more than the fact that a British subject of such and such a name died on such a day at Nagasaki. I hope Sir you will take steps to express your opinion of the want of consideration shown in this case by your officer & pardon me for troubling you with this painful reclamation.

I am Sir your very obedient humble servant
William Howard Russell, Knt.

26. Hirayama Sakai to Satow (handwritten, p. 42 in file)

Aug. 25 1898

Ernest Mason Satow Esquire

Dear Sir,

I have received your kindness for which I tender my very best thanks, and got pension 20th this month and returned the money as inclosure.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Hirayama Sakai

27. Receipt signed by Parlett (handwritten, p. 43 in file)

Received from Mr. Hirayama Sakai late writer to this Consulate Genl. the sum of thirty yen, being the amount he borrowed in May 1898 from Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G.

[Stamped "British Consulate Yokohama"]

[signed] Harold G. Parlett

Pro-Consul

28. James Dodds to Satow (handwritten, p. 44 in file)

Yokohama

25th Sept. 1898

My dear Sir Ernest

I am much indebted to you for your kind remembrance of my remarks at [Dick] Robison's on Friday re Sugar Duties and for the information conveyed in your note of yesterday, which unfortunately dispels the illusion under which I was laboring as to the protection afforded us by the German Treaty.

We must now await further action on the part of the Japanese with what equanimity we may.

Yours sincerely

Jas. Dodd

29. Edward Moon M.P. to Satow (handwritten, p. 45 in file)

IMPERIAL HOTEL,

TOKIO, JAPAN [envelope addressed to Satow]

11 Oct. 1898

Dear Sir Ernest,

I am very much obliged to you for the letter of introduction to the Governor of Kioto & for the orders of admission & am honoured by your accepting my offer of Sancta Sophia.

I was delighted with Nikko, Chuzenji & Yumoto and have just had a most interesting morning at Schools & the University: I am to see some further gymnastics this aft:

I hope when you are in England next that I may have the pleasure of coming to see you & of offering my services. Please let me say how grateful I am to you for your kindness & hospitality. As the author of "21 days in India" says – "there is no such fearsome wild fowl as your travelling M.P." & though he is not classified in a separate category by Prof. Chamberlain in his article on Globe Trotters, I fear he must have many annoying characteristics.

Believe me

Very truly yours

Edwd. A.G. Moon

P.S. I will write to Hatchards to send Father Baber's book.¹¹ I hope it or part of it will interest you.

30. Brinkley to Satow (handwritten, p. 48 in file)

[Satow's handwriting above letter, a note probably to the Legation Secretary: "What do you think of this? I don't think I can put his name on the list, if it involves recognizing that he has a Jap[ane]se. order, and he has not the Queen's permission to accept it."]

My dear Sir Ernest,

Last spring Baron Sannomiya was so kind as to say that some arrangement had been effected by which holders of all orders from 3rd class upwards might obtain invitation to the Palace parties by applying through their Ministers. I did not avail myself of the suggestion at the time, & Baron S. now writes again to say that we (Mrs. B. & I) may ask you "to put our names on the list." It seems ungracious not to take advantage of his kindness, and besides it might be unwise for many independent reasons not to do so. Therefore I write to you, but I hope you will understand that I make no request of any kind, & that I am quite prepared to find some good reason from your point of view against taking any such step.

Yours very truly,

F. Brinkley

12th Nov. [1898]

31. Satow answers Brinkley (handwritten copy of letter, p. 49 in file)

12 Nov. 1898

My dear Brinkley,

I sh[ou]ld. be glad to do any thing to oblige you, but I am not quite sure that I sh[ou]ld. not be recognizing your order, w[hi]ch. of course I cannot do officially, as you have not as far as I know got the Queen's permission to accept & wear it. At the same time in your position as the holder of an order, I think it w[ou]ld. be desirable for you to go to the Garden Party, if it can be arranged. The G[rand]. M[aster]. of Ceremonies [Baron Sannomiya] writes to me officially to send in the names of officers of the British Army &

¹¹ Presumably Rev. Henry Hervey Baber, *The New Testament translated by John Wiclif D.D., Memoirs of the Life, Opinions and Writings of Dr. Wiclif and an Historical Account of the Saxon and English Versions of the Scriptures* (London: Hamilton, Hatchard et al. 1810)

Navy and any distinguished persons passing thro' Japan, but if at the same time he tells me privately to put the name of any one else on my list, I of course am happy to do so.

Could you not arrange that he sh[ou]ld. do this in your case?

y.v.t.

32. Brinkley replies to Satow (handwritten, p. 51 in file)

Saturday

My dear Sir Ernest

I think the matter had better end there. I should not have troubled you had I not felt, as I am sure you will agree, that something was due to Baron Sannomiya's kindness. When he mentioned the point to me last spring, I told him emphatically that if the Household Department wished to recognize its own orders, there should be no such anomalous intervention as that of the British Legation. Hence I am not entirely of your way of thinking. I can not see why the Legation's good offices should be invoked, & I am glad that you take the same view. I need scarcely tell you that Baron Sannomiya's proceedings were not suggested or prompted in any way by me. They seem to have had their origin in something quite distinct from festivities – poor Verbeck's¹² funeral. Sannomiya then agitated for further recognition of Japanese orders, & incidentally devised the scheme about invitations for the garden parties &c.

I declined to apply to you last spring because I thought, & said, that the matter rested solely with the Household Department, & that I did not desire to embarrass you by proposing any vicarious arrangement of the kind. He seems to have forgotten my objection. At any rate his letter – which I enclose for your private perusal – makes no allusion to it. The whole idea is wrong in my opinion, & I am happy that you take the same view.

Yours v[er]y truly

F. Brinkley

Attachment: Letter from Sannomiya (handwritten, p. 53 in file)

Confidential

Dear Captn. Brinkley,

Imperial kiku [chrysanthemum] party will take place on the 16th so you may ask Sir

¹² Guido Verbeck (1830-1898), the Dutch political adviser and missionary, died on May 10, 1898. He was buried in Aoyama cemetery.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

Ernest to put your names in the list.

Yours very truly

Y. Sannomiya

Nov. 11/98

33. H.S. Bickerton Brindley to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 54 in file)

Nov. 15th 1898

3 AWOICHO, AKASAKA,
TOKYO, JAPAN.

Dear Sir Ernest,

Both the Yokosuka and Kuré Docks will admit Battleships up to 15000 tons.

The Yokosuka Dock has been recently altered to do so, & the Kuré Dock was designed to take even larger than 15000 ton ships.

The Sasebo Dock, when repaired, will also take the largest warships afloat.

Such Boats as the "Powerful" cannot, however, be docked at Yokosuka on account of their great length.

Trusting the above will be satisfactory & with the assurance that any information which may lie in my power to give is always freely at your disposal.

I remain

Faithfully yours

H.S. Bickerton Brindley

I suppose you have heard that Vickers have secured the last Battleship order from the Japanese? H.S.B.B.

34. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 55 in file)

[“Ans Dec 5/-“] ¹³

MOLLISON & CO.

No. 48, Yokohama, 29th Nov. 1898

My dear Sir Ernest,

You will perhaps remember that I had some conversation with you about 2 years ago, in reference to the establishment of an explosives factory in Japan and it having been hinted to me that the Japanese Govt. contemplate the erection of such a factory themselves, I

¹³ The Mollisons came to tea with Satow on December 5, 1898. (Diary)

wondered if you could in a fairly conversational way ascertain whether there is any truth in the rumour & let me know. I'd be very grateful for any information you can afford me.

I am also anxious to know what the annual production of Nitric Acid is at the 4 Government Factories of Meguro, Itabashi, Iwahama & Uji but cannot get any information from my Japanese friends, who tell me it is a State secret that they don't like to, in fact hardly dare to fathom. Do you think you could help me; again conversationally with some of the officials? & greatly oblige

Yours faithfully

James P. Mollison

35. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 56 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

No. 48, Yokohama, 13th Decr. 1898

My dear Sir Ernest,

By the last mail I had a letter from Nobels' giving their reasons for asking information about Nitric Acid as the starting of an Explosives Factory in Japan. It is a natural desire not to let anyone get ahead of them if anything of the kind is contemplated. So I shall be grateful as will they for any light you can throw on the subject.

Meantime I send you 2 copies of the Description of Nobels' Great Factory at Ardeer [in Scotland] – which you will perhaps find worth reading.

Yours sincerely

James P. Mollison

P.S. I wonder if you can support the New Cricket Pavilion Fund by subscribing to the Public Ball as advertised.

36. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 57 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

No. 48, Yokohama, 16 Decr. 1898

My dear Sir Ernest

Many thanks for your note of 15th & also for your kind contribution to the Pavilion Fund which I may say has gratified the Committee of the Y.C. & A.C. very much.

As regards the supposed erection of a cordite factory in Japan, Nobels seem to think they have good grounds for believing that such an idea exists in Naval &/or Military minds, and

being a question of vital importance to them they have impressed on me the necessity of getting definite information and want to leave no stone unturned in order to get it.

I thought the Ardeer Pamphlet would interest you, & now if you care to know all about Nobel, you will find an excellent biographical sketch of his life in the "Nineteenth Century" for Octr. If you have not got it I shall be happy to lend it to you.

With best regards

Yours sincerely

James P. Mollison¹⁴

37. D.C. Greene to Satow (handwritten, p. 58 in file)

Ichigaya, Dec. 30/98

Many thanks for your generous judgment of my letter to [U.S. Minister] Mr. Buck and for your promise to confer with him upon the subject of which the letter treats.

In various ways information has come to us showing that the Japanese authorities are not a little anxious lest the contrasts between their system and ours should affect in an unfortunate degree their relations with Great Britain and the United States at a time when they are straining every nerve to secure at least a unity of policy toward Far Eastern problems. I can but believe that if pains are taken not to wound their self-respect, valuable ameliorations of their code of criminal procedure can be secured.

The query has arisen in my mind whether a suggestion dropped as to the desirability of allowing the council of the alleged offender to be present at the preliminary examination – not perhaps to share in the proceedings, but for his information and as an aid in the preparation of the defence – might not bear fruit even at the present session of the Diet. I am told by an attaché of the Foreign Office, a Japanese, that he has seen a draft of certain proposed amendments to the Criminal Code which are intended to lessen the hardship to arrested persons and to hasten their release on bail. Now is the time, I feel confident, for suggestions and if given, as of course they would be given, in a friendly spirit they would be fairly sure of consideration – more sure than six months hence. I am not sanguine of success, but I believe that some technical failure would probably lead to special efforts on the part of the Japanese authorities to show that anxiety was needless and that the administration of the code in Japan would compare favourably with that in France or

¹⁴ "Mollison came to tell me of his ill success." Satow and Mollison discussed explosive manufacture at length, and concluded that the Japanese "probably are manufacturing all kinds of explosives." (Diary, 24 December 1898)

Germany.

But I must not weary you. Again thanking you for your interest in the matter,

I remain, yours very truly

D.C. Greene

38. Edward Divers¹⁵ to Satow (handwritten, p. 61 in file)

Wednesday Night

My dear Sir Ernest,

Thank you for kindly signing the papers which after all cannot be used, consular official papers being necessary. Forster copied the example of what was wanted and stamped it and a duplicate. The death had been registered after all, so that Mr. Troup must have paid up for me. I made an affidavit concerning the birth of my daughter which Forster signed and sealed. But steps will be taken to get the register of the birth in London, so that this may prove to be not wanted. All has to be in duplicate and the British Consular fees this morning were \$10.50. Some work was done this morning at the French Consulate and then at 4.30 p.m., the French Vice-Consul sat down in my house and wrote steadily in the Consular books for three hours! Many pages therefore of course and everything duplicated. There were many signatures required and if official detail and exactness can be impressive then the whole was very impressive. The Vice Consul and Captain Labry are now with M. Harmand carrying the matter a further stage. The French Consular files should be quite alarming.

About your signature it is in my recollection that you told me to put down your second Christian name, but my memory, I am sorry to say, now often plays tricks with me and I may be wrong. Of course your signatures would be perfectly satisfactory in their present form, though it seems to me that your ordinary signature would be appropriate even though your fuller name occurs in the deed. But, as I have said, the present deeds are not to be used. Forster is to treat the matter as official and therefore confidential, but in one way or the other, no doubt it will soon leak out or be guessed.

Going down in the train this morning I met Rentiers and his bride. He seems to have made a good choice. My daughter, Mrs. Tilden, leaves us tomorrow for Kobe with her

¹⁵ Dr. Edward Divers (1837-1912) was a British experimental chemist, in Japan 1873-99. He became a Professor Emeritus of Tokyo University (See Wikipedia). Divers came to see Satow on January 6, 1899 to ask him to be a witness of his daughter's wedding, and he attended the wedding of Miss Edith Divers to Captain Vicomte de Labry on January 18th. (Diary)

husband.

Yours truly

Edward Divers

39. Ross Thomson to G.A. Lowther (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 63 in file)

YOKOHAMA UNITED CLUB

No. 5 BUND

Dear Mr. Lowther,

During the two years that I have been here, it has been generally understood in our office that the Consular shipping office was closed at noon sharp on Saturdays and that no vessel could be cleared during Saturday p.m. unless notice of intention to clear had been sent in before noon, in which case the papers would be made out & left with the office boy till applied for.

This really causes no material inconvenience; but, in the case of a vessel arriving between noon and 4 p.m. on a Saturday she cannot enter and is tied up until Monday morning. The only alternative is to find the shipping officer and persuade him to do us the favor of coming to his office & entering the vessel – out of hours, as we have always understood. He yachts & rides a bike, so that is not always easy or possible!

Of course this is not a matter of frequent occurrence because in the case of vessels from Kobe, we can make arrangements in advance, knowing, within an hour or so, when the steamer will arrive. But steamers coming – say from Hongkong direct, may suffer materially, should they not get in until after noon on a Saturday.

Of course I don't want to appear to make a complaint, as I have found all the Consular people most obliging to me personally. Whenever I have had advance information about any steamer's movements, there has never been any difficulty in arranging matters satisfactorily, and we have only suffered inconvenience in the case of unexpectedly sudden cases of arrival or despatch.

When I have visited the S.O. upon a Saturday afternoon, he has never refused to do what I asked, though it was always done in the light of a favor.

I think this is about all I can tell you of the procedure, as it comes under my notice. In case you have occasion to use the information, kindly do not publish the source whence you have obtained it.

Yours very truly

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

Ross Thomson
Friday.

40. J.P. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 65 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

No. 48, Yokohama, 9th January, 1899

My dear Sir Ernest,

I am planning a visit to Tokyo on Wednesday, along with Mr. W[illiam]. Waters a representative of Nobels Coy who has been exploring the North of China in the interests of the Company, provided with letters from Lord Salisbury to Sir Claude MacDonald, The Admiral & Lord Charles Beresford, all of whom he has had interviews with, & I thought perhaps a call from him would not be uninteresting to you. Mr. Waters spent a week at Weihaiwei & obtained permission to establish an Explosives Magazine there on behalf of Nobels – though this is quite private.

If convenient then, with your permission I'll bring Mr. Waters to call on you on Wednesday afternoon.¹⁶

Nothing more from Viscount Katsura. If he wants to know anything about Explosives or the Establishment of a Factory, now would be his opportunity. Mr. Waters will only be here for a week or two.

Yours Sincerely,
James P. Mollison

41. Susan Ballard to Satow (handwritten, p.66 in file)

[ansd. 14/1/99]

Dear Sir Earnest, [sic.]

I wonder whether you would be so good & kind as to take upon yourself the responsibility of saying that I am a respectable and trustworthy person?

I have been much interested in the subject of women's prisons and have twice lately gone over the one at Ichigaya.

I wish to send to Marquis Saigo [Tsugumichi] the petition of which I enclose a copy.

¹⁶ "Mollison and William Waters of Nobel came to lunch. He says the [British] naval people want a mole built at Wei-hai-wei which will cost 1½ to 2 million £. Otherwise in time of war ships could not be protected from torpedo craft. Is going to establish a magazine for explosives there." (Satow's diary, 11 January 1899)

I have been advised by Japanese to ask you for a letter stating that I am a person fit for such a trust.

There has never hitherto been a woman visitor in the women's prisons, and I want to base my petition on that ground. Mr. Arima, the Governor [of the prison], will be delighted if I get the permission but I was to get it independently of him, from head quarters.

If you would give me a note of introduction I should be really grateful.

Yrs sincerely

S. Ballard

3 Yanai machi

Ushi gome

Jany. 11th

Handwritten Petition enclosed with letter:

Copy

My Lord,

Believing you to be interested in the important question of prison reform in Japan, I venture to submit to your consideration the following facts.

I. It is increasingly recognised in European countries that reformatory work among women should be carried on by women.

II. The only instructors or visitors in such prisons as the Ichigaya prison for women, are Buddhist priests.

While believing that the Buddhist priests do their work faithfully and to the best of their power I would point out that it is obviously impossible that they should do the important work of regularly visiting the women in their cells. This is evidently women's work and I therefore pray Your Lordship to give the necessary permission to me and a helper to visit the Ichigaya prison, for the purpose of visiting the women, especially those under long sentences and giving them instruction in such ways as shall be approved of by the Governor of the prison.

I remain

Yours respectfully

Susan Ballard

42. Reverend Dr. Daniel C. Greene to Satow (handwritten, p. 70 in file)

[ans. 15/1/99]

Ichigaya, Jan. 14/99

My dear Sir Ernest:-

The other day Mr. Masujima¹⁷ wrote to ask an interview with me regarding the reform of the Criminal Procedure. Accordingly I met him by appointment this a.m. It appears that he had heard through Mr. Ivor of my interest in the matter and was hoping for some kind of indirect cooperation. In the course of our conversation, he intimated that he would like to meet you, if you thought proper to have an informal talk with him.

Apparently he hopes that the agitation by the foreigners of Kobe and Yokohama and the influence of yourself and Mr. Buck will incidentally facilitate certain plans of his own, undertaken with the same end which we all have in view.

The great difficulty lies in the apathy of the Japanese people, to whom as Mr. Masujima thinks & as many other Japanese think, imprisonment even for considerable periods seems far less distressing than to the average Anglo-American.

Yours very truly,

D.C. Greene

43. Miss M.D. Weston to Satow (handwritten, p. 71A in file)

[Ans. 21/1. Spoke to Okuma & Kabayama.]

13 Shimoroku Bancho

Kojimachi

Jan 20th 1899

Dear Sir Ernest

We are anxious to lay before you once more the visit of Miss Tsuda [Umeko] to England. Mrs. Awdry begs that you will excuse her writing to you but just at this moment she is very busy preparing for leaving Tokyo for the Bonin Islands next week.

The state of the case is this: the invitation extended to the Summer term i.e. end of June. It appears that Miss Tsuda has appealed to the two schools & has received leave to remain from one but not from the other. The friends in England who invited her are very anxious that she should have the full time & it is a great disappointment that she should have to

¹⁷ Masujima Rokuichirō (1857-1948). Barrister of the Middle Temple, and first president of the forerunner of Chūō University. In Letter no. 82 below Satow recommends him to Bishop Evington.

leave early in April. In the beginning the invitation was for two ladies till at least the above specified time – only one lady has gone & her time is shortened. This is disappointing. The Summer term at Oxford is a most valuable one & it does seem the greatest pity that she cannot take advantage of the whole offer. We should like so much to know your view of the matter & if any steps could be taken through the Government to enable Miss Tsuda to spend three months more in England i.e. April, May & June.

May I ask you to use very carefully the facts as regards School permissions? I thought it better to state them as I had heard them. Do you think it would be possible to approach the government for this extension. It does seem such a vast pity for her to lose this opportunity. In case this letter does not make things quite clear to you or that for any reason a personal interview would be satisfactory may I say that I am quite ready to call upon you at any time.

I am

Yours truly

M.D. Weston

44. Lord Charles Beresford to Satow (handwritten, p. 74 in file)

Yokohama

Jan 25/99

My dear Sir Ernest

One line to thank you is very warmly for all your kindness to me in Japan. I have great faith that the visit may do good. Anyhow I am delighted that the views I hold meet with your sympathy. In concurrence I will write to you on my return home and tell you how things are going. I made great friends with Prince Lobanof here last night.

Yours very truly

Charles Beresford¹⁸

Copy of Speech given by Emperor Meiji to Beresford

23 January 1899

¹⁸ Lord Charles Beresford (1846-1919) was a British admiral and Member of Parliament. In 1898-9 he visited China and Japan to investigate commercial prospects for the British Chamber of Commerce. A banquet was held in his honour by the Tōbu Kyōkai (Eastern Association) and Tokyo Chamber of Commerce at the Teikoku Hotel on January 21st. Satow presented Beresford to the Emperor on January 23rd. (Satow's Diary)

His Majesty's speech[sic] to Lord Charles Beresford

His Majesty is very pleased to receive you in audience to-day.

As the great object of your coming to the Far East may have the effect of completely changing his opinion of the world His Majesty and his subjects hearty [sic] welcome your visit to this country. He hopes that the result will be to draw still closer the ties of friendship which so happy [sic] unite the tow [sic] countries.

His Majesty is very sorry that you can not stay in Japan longer.

How did you enjoy the netting ducks the other day?

He hopes that you will take a caution for your journey in this cold weather.

45. William P. Buncombe to Satow (handwritten, p. 77 in file)

Miya-no-shita

Feb 1st 1899.

[52 Tsukiji, Tokyo]

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

The leading Christians in Tokyo, representatives of I think most of the leading Churches, are proposing to make an effort to influence the Nobility & Members of Parliament, & leaders of the upper classes in favour of Christianity. They think that the present moment is most opportune, when men's minds are so much exercised with regard to the results of the coming into force of the new treaties, & mixed residence.

They also think that Christianity has probably never been fairly presented to most of them, but that they have formed their judgements about it from hearsay.

They are proposing therefore to invite all these gentlemen to meetings at the Imperial Hotel on or about March 10. But they fear that if the invitation went out as one to a Christian "Ensetu Kwai" that but few would come. And they propose that one meeting – they intend holding two – afternoon & evening – the afternoon one, I presume, should take the form of a reception, to meet the leading Christians Japanese & Foreign, at which one or two addresses would be given.

They wish to get as many influential names as possible, as Convenors of this reception, & requested me to ask if you could kindly lend your name & influence & be present at the Reception.

The American Minister is also to be asked, I believe.

I myself heartily approve of some special effort being made to reach the upper classes,

who are it is to be feared quite ignorant of the real teachings of the Gospel; and before I was asked to write the above to you, I had intended writing to ask you if you would like to give a subscription towards the expenses of this meeting. The expenses for this and some other special evangelistic efforts they hope to make at the same time are estimated at about 600 yen.

I have come to Miya-no-shita for a few days rest, being rather overdone, but expect to be back in Tokyo on Monday 6th.

With very kind regards

believe me

Yours sincerely

Wm. P. Buncombe

46. Montague Kirkwood to Satow (handwritten, p. 79 in file)

Feb. 3. '99

Dear Sir Ernest

I mentioned the other evening that it was intended on Saturday to refer to the question of Counsel being allowed access to accused persons and being allowed to attend at the preliminary examination before the Judge of instruction – a question at the present time of great interest to all lawyers and especially to those living in this country, since France, the country on whose laws the criminal procedure of Japan was based, has recently had to make amendments in the law so as to recover [?] to the accused those safeguards of his liberty and rights.

You seemed to fear that any discussion touching on the laws of this country might place you as British Minister in a difficult position. Should you still think so, and should you desire that such discussions be avoided I will take steps so far as I can to prevent them, although at a dinner of lawyers it may be difficult to do so altogether.

Believe me

Yours truly

Montague Kirkwood

Satow's reply (copy handwritten on letter):

My d[ea]r. Kirkwood,

Many thanks for your note of this morning. What I feel is that it w[oul]d. not be suitable for

me to be supposed to take part in a discussion amongst professional men, some of whom are Japanese practising barristers, on the imperfections of the legal procedure of Jap[ane]se Courts. I looked upon the proposed gathering as a social meeting of men belonging to the legal profession, & had no idea that it might possibly go beyond that. I shall be very much obliged if you will do all in your power to discourage any discussion, except by way of conversation among the 'convives', of the merits & demerits of the Japanese legal system.

y.v.t.

E.S.

47. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 81 in file)

MOLLISON & CO. No. 48, Yokohama, 7th February, 1899

My dear Sir Ernest,

Referring to the Arms & Explosives Bill, I am still without any reply from Mitsuhashi, but I hear from other reliable sources that in reply to Hasebe the Govt. Delegate stated in the House that the Regulations had not been completed yet, and that some attention would be paid to his – Hasebe's – suggestions. I understand that the nature of the Regulations to be framed rests with the Home Department, & it occurs to me that of you were to point out to Marquis Saigo the dangers of an ambiguous regulation that might be held to apply to Stocks held by foreigners in the Govt. Magazines, the matter might be satisfactorily arranged. Any such limit as 100 Kwamme would for many reasons simply kill the trade alike for foreigners and Japanese. For instance my present stock amounts to 25,000 Kwamme & is rarely less than half that quantity, so that to talk of 100 Kwamme as a limit is absurd, apart from the fact that arrangements for the transfer of such a small w[eigh]t. could not be made except at prohibitive expense, either from England or from place to place in Japan.

With best regards

Yours sincerely

James P. Mollison

48. Bevis to Satow (typed with printed letterhead, p. 82 in file)

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

YOKOHAMA

Yokohama

Fby, 8th, 1899

Dear Sir Ernest Satow.

I have to-day received a telegram from my London Office enquiring as to what the Japanese Government are doing regarding the foreign loan they contemplate, they say they learn they are making enquiries in London.

I shall be very much obliged if you can give me any information that I can send them on the subject. I saw Count Matsukata about then days ago and talked with him generally on the subject, but that was all.

I see in translation from a Japanese paper that Parr's Bank Lmt'd, London are making offers, the paper states "through the British Minister," and there appear to be many others in the field.

Anything you tell me will of course be quite private between my Chief manager and myself.

Yours truly,

[signed] H.M. Bevis

Satow's answer (copy handwritten on letter):

Tokio, Feb. 10, 1899.

Dear Mr. Bevis,

In ans[wer]. to your inquiry about the plans of the Jap[anese]. Gov[ernmen]t. with regard to a loan, I have no information beyond what I have seen in the papers. You have of course noticed that a bill has been before the Diet for enabling the Govt. to borrow, & empowering them to do it on certain conditions.

I do not know anything about Parr's Bank making offers, and the statement in a Japse. paper that I was acting in some way as an intermediary is a pure figment of the writer's imagination. As you know, I bank there, & perh[aps]. some one in the newspaper world has heard of this. If Shand is doing anything, it is prob[ably]. thro' Kato in London, with whom he is acquainted.

If I hear anything that would be of use to you, I will let you know.

y.v.t.

E.S.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION,
YOKOHAMA.

Tokio, Feb. 10. 1899

82

Dear Mr. Brewis

In ans. to your inquiry about the plans of the Yokohama, with regard to a loan, I have no information beyond what I have seen in the papers.

Feb. 8th, 1899.

You have of course noticed that a bill has been before the Diet for enabling the Yokohama to borrow, empowering them to do so on certain conditions.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I have to-day received a telegram from my London Office enquiring as to what the Japanese Government are doing regarding the foreign loan they contemplate, they say they learn they are making enquiries in London,

I shall be very much obliged if you can give me any information that I can send them on the subject, I saw Count Matsukata about ten days ago and talked with him generally on the subject, but that was all.

I see in a translation from a Japanese paper that Parr's Bank Ltd, London are making offers, the paper states "through the British Minister," and there appear to be many others in the field,

Anything you tell me will of course be quite private between my Chief Manager and myself.

Yours truly,

Sir E. M. Satow, K. C. M. G.

British Minister,

I do not know anything about Parr's Bank making offers, and the statement in a Japan. paper that I was acting in some way as an intermediary is a pure figment of the writer's imagination. As you know, I Tokyo bank here, & perhaps some one in the news-paper would have heard of this. If I had is doing anything, it is prob. this' Kato in London, with whom he is acquainted. If I hear anything that would be of use to you, I will let you know.

59

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

49. H.S. Bickerton Brindley to Satow (on crested notepaper marked "HSBB", p.83 in file)

Feb. 10th 1899

3 Awoicho,

Akasaka,

Tokyo,

Japan

Dear Sir Ernest,

Reverting to your letter of the 19th ult. I am afraid you will think I am rather remiss, but up to the present I have only obtained particulars of the Yokosuka Dock. These I enclose. I hope to have all particulars of the Kuré Docks in a day or so.

The bottom of Yokosuka dock is as per sketch

[Sketch on letter, see below.]

Trusting this will prove of some service to Admiral Seymour & yourself.

Yours very truly

H.S. Bickerton Brindley



Feb. 10th 1899

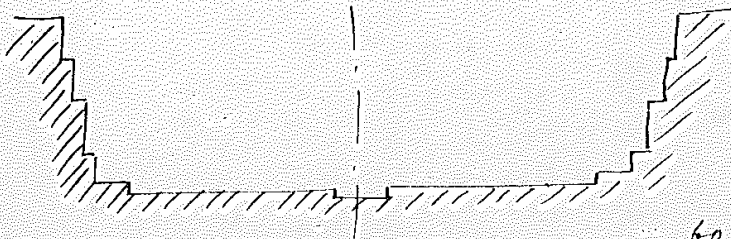
03

3 AWOICHO, AKASAKA,
TOKYO, JAPAN.

Dear Sir Ernest.

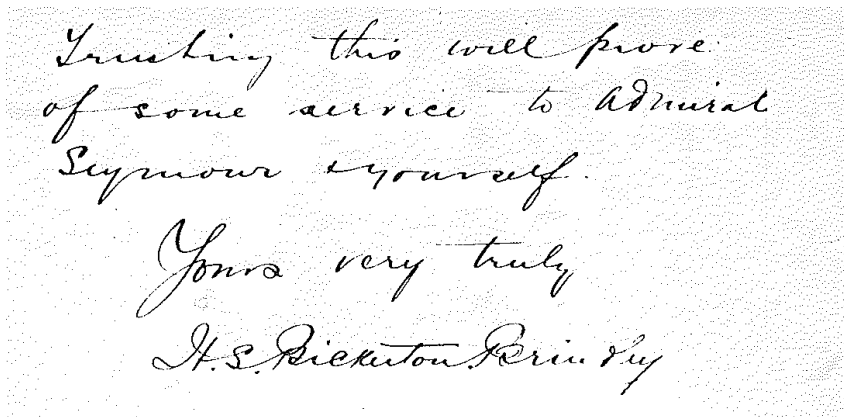
Reverting to your letter
of the 19th ult. I am afraid
you will think I am rather
remiss. but up to the present
I have only obtained particulars
of the Yokozuka Dock. These
I enclose. I hope to have
all particulars of the Kure
Docks in a day or so.

The bottom of Yokozuka
dock is as per sketch



60

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)



Trusting this will prove
of some service to Admiral
Seymour & yourself.

Yours very truly

H. S. Rickatson Prinsep

[p. 84 – chart]

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

04		Names.		Length.	Width of Entrance.		Whole Depth of Dock.		Depth of Water on sill at.			Depth of Water on block at.			Blocks.		Slope of Bottom.	Pumping out Water.													
In Blocks.					Top.	Bottom.	Top.	Bottom.	Inside.	Sill.	Springs.	Ordinary Springs.	Neaps.	Springs.	Ordinary Springs.	Neaps.			Height.	Distance between.											
No. I.	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres	feet	metres													
	321.6	98.00	392.9	119.50	377.3	115.00	82.0	25.00	75.8	23.09	29.6	9.00	27.6	8.40	22.3	7.10	22.7	6.90	21.7	6.60	21.3	6.50	20.8	6.30	19.8	6.00	3.3	1.00	3.11	1.20	....
No. II	459.3	94.5	502.4	82.1	482.8	94.5	82.1	38.0	33.7	28.10	28.4	27.4	28.1	28.4	27.4	3.3	4.5	.06 inch. per ft.													
No. III	269.8	45.3	308.4	38.8	289.8	45.3	38.8	24.1	22.7	18.6	17.10	16.10	17.10	17.2	16.2	3.3	2.11	.12 inch per ft.													
	82.20	13.80	94.00	11.80	88.30	13.80	11.80	7.60	6.90	5.65	5.45	5.15	5.45	5.25	4.95	1.00	0.90	10 m per metre													
4 hours		8 hours		8 hours.		Pumping out Water.																									

50. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 85 in file)

MOLLISON & CO.

No. 48, Yokohama 23rd Feby, 1899

My dear Sir Ernest,

You will of course have noticed from the native press that the question of the Recreation Ground here, which includes the Cricket Ground is being debated[?] in Japanese Circles, and the idea put forward that the land is too valuable to be left unbuilt on; further that against next July arrangements should be made for the taking over of the land by the Municipality for Building purposes. I need hardly say that were such an idea carried out it would be a positive disaster for all residents of Yokohama both Japanese and foreigners, destroying as it would the great lung of a Community that is bound to become an enormous one in a very few years, and is already large enough to require such a free breathing space for health and relaxation. I may say that throughout the greater part of the year the Garden outside the Cricket pitch is largely frequented by Japanese for pleasure, whilst the comparatively open space at the South End of the Garden has become a regular baseball ground for Young Japan.

You will remember that we had some correspondence on this subject about a year ago, & that we agreed that it would perhaps be unwise to give the Japanese Authorities an inkling that we had any doubts about the security of our tenure under Art. 18 of the New Treaty, but some of the members of the Y.C. & A.C. are getting anxious on the point, & I must confess to feeling some concern myself. I venture to ask your opinion therefore as to what is best to be done? I should think the Japanese non-official residents would resent their Garden being built over, & that their sympathy & support might be enlisted to oppose its being taken from them for any such purpose; whilst foreigners of all nationalities alike would undoubtedly unite to preserve the Cricket Ground. The Annual Meeting of the Y.C. & A.C. takes place on Monday next & I'd be glad to have your views before that if possible.

With best regards, Yours Sincerely,

James P. Mollison

51. Thomas to Satow (handwritten, p. 87 in file)

Yokohama Feby. 24th.

Dear Sir Ernest

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

We have fixed the days of the Spring Meeting of the N.R.C. Monday 25th April, Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th and I am deputed to ask you if you could get any of the Military Officers to make up a special race each day for them – if so the Committee would arrange their programme accordingly. I don't know if you are acquainted with any of the Officers or have the means of letting the Committees [sic] proposals be known to such as might feel inclined to go in for the sport but anyway if you could give effect to the proposal it would be evidence of the Clubs [sic] good feeling and as probably on this occasion the Emperor may visit the Races it would be a good opportunity for the Japanese Military to distinguish themselves on the turf.

You will I suppose at the proper time give the invitation for His Majesty without our saying anything more to you on the subject.

Yours Truly,

Tom. Thomas

52. Bishop Fyson to Satow (handwritten, p. 88 in file)

Hakodate

Feb. 27. 1899

Dear Sir,

I have taken the liberty of recommending a young man of the name of Piers, now living at Yokohama (52 Main Street) to apply for the post of Constable at this Consulate, having heard that Mr. Nesbitt has sent in his resignation and wishes to leave for England next month. Mr. Piers is about 24 years old, the son of a Captain in the Navy (father not living) and has himself worked for a time on board ship. Whether he possesses the requisite qualifications for a constable I do not know. He is not brilliant, but he is a steady young man, a regular attendant at church, not conceited in any way, has much improved since we first knew him here two years ago, and writes a clear hand. He is now trying to make a living by teaching English to Japanese in Yokohama.

With apologies for troubling you with the matter

I am

Yours faithfully

P.K. Fyson

Bishop

To Sir Ernest Satow K.C.M.G.

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

The British Legation

[Answer noted on letter by Satow: “Ans 6 March May some day perh. have a clerkship to offer him if he is competent for that sort of work.”]

53. T.H. Whitehead¹⁹ to Satow (typed, p. 90 in file)

Hong Kong, 27th February, 1899.

¹⁹ T. H. Whitehead, not to be confused with Legation Secretary James B. Whitehead, was branch manager of the Chartered Bank in Hong Kong. He lunched with Satow on December 3, 1898. “He thinks they ought to raise the land tax, so I gave him reasons for thinking the measure would be unpopular and that the expenditure on Army is too large for the needs of Japan.” They also discussed the Chartered Bank v Flood case which arose in Kobe. (Diary, Ruxton 2003, pp. 318-9).

90

Hong Kong, 27th February, 1899.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I have to-day received your very kind letter of 1st inst in re Foreigners' Rights under the new Treaties to lease land in Japan, and I beg to thank you most heartily for the information therein conveyed. I am greatly astonished that it did not occur to any one to apply to Your Excellency on the subject before and as the Foreign Community generally in Japan will be much gratified with this expression of your views on the point and immediately relieved I will in accordance with your permission communicate the same to the Newspapers in Tokyo, Yokohama and Kobe.

Again thanking you most sincerely for your kindness and courtesy during my sojourn in Japan.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

W. H. Whitehead

His Excellency

Sir Ernest M. Satow, K.C.M.G.,

H. B. M's Minister,

T O K Y O.

66

Correspondence and Papers (private). Japanese mission. Miscellaneous. Various. (Satow Papers: PRO 30/33 6/15. (October 1897-April 1900)

54. W.B. Walter to Satow (handwritten, p. 91 in file)

[Satow's handwriting: "Ans. 4/3"]

Yokohama

3 March 1899

My dear Sir Ernest

Mr. Isaacs of the American firm of R Isaacs & Bro has come to Tokyo today, to see the American Minister on the subject of obtaining storage in Bond of Cardiff coal just arrived to this firm's consignment, & this matter will no doubt be also taken up by the US Legation.

R Isaac & Bro are doing a considerable business in supplies to the American Army & Navy at Manila & sell Cardiff coal to the US Navy here.

Yours very truly

W.B. Walter

P.S. The clause in the Private Bonded Warehouse Regulations²⁰ to the effect that as per Art XXII "no goods belonging to its Proprietor can be stored in a Private Bonded Warehouse" is absurd as it nullifies the advantage of such warehouse.

55. Mollison to Satow (handwritten with printed letterhead, p. 93 in file)

MOLLISON & CO. No. 48 Yokohama, 4th March 1899

My dear Sir Ernest,

As you were leaving at once for Chiuzenji I did not reply to your kind note of 24th ulto., but acting on your advice have read Article 18 of the Revised Treaty & Art. 1 of the Convention of 29th Decr. 1866. These taken together seem to protect the Public Garden, and as the Cricket Ground is in the Centre of the Garden, it would seem to be protected too – at all events from being built upon.

At the same time the lease held by the Cricket club from the Kencho is terminable at 6 months notice & it occurs to me that possibly the Japanese might ask to have the Cricket Ground incorporated with the Garden proper or thrown open to Japanese as well as foreigners, & that would make things very awkward for us. However, no use crying out until we are hurt. I am going to Tokyo on Monday morning, 6th inst. & with your permission will call & bring the Cricket Ground lease for your inspection. At the same time I'd like to have another word with you on the subject of Nitro Glycerine & if it is yet

²⁰ Satow has written here: "Are they Regns. or a Law?"

manufactured in Japan.

Yours Sincerely

James P. Mollison

56. Okuma Shigenobu to Satow (handwritten, p. 94 in file)²¹

Waseda,

March 5, '99

E. Satow, Esq.

Dear Sir,

Allow me to have the pleasure of introducing to you the bearer of this note, Mr. Yoshiro Kubota.²² He is a lawyer by profession, and having spent a few years in your country, he is an ardent admirer of her social and political institutions. For that reason he wishes to have the honor of your personal acquaintance. I have no doubt that you will find him a thoughtful observer of all legal and political questions of our country.

Very respectfully yours,

Okuma

Per K.Y. [Kubota Yoshiro?]

²¹ It is not clear whether this letter is in Okuma's own hand.

²² See Satow's diary for 8 March 1899: "A partner of Hatoyama [Kazuo] called Kubota Yoshirō [1865-1919, a member of the House of Representatives] brought a letter of introduction from Ōkuma and his pamphlet on foreign politics. He asked for letter to [Henry C.] Litchfield and Dick Robison as President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce." (Ruxton, 2003, p. 343)

94

Waseda,
March 5. '99.

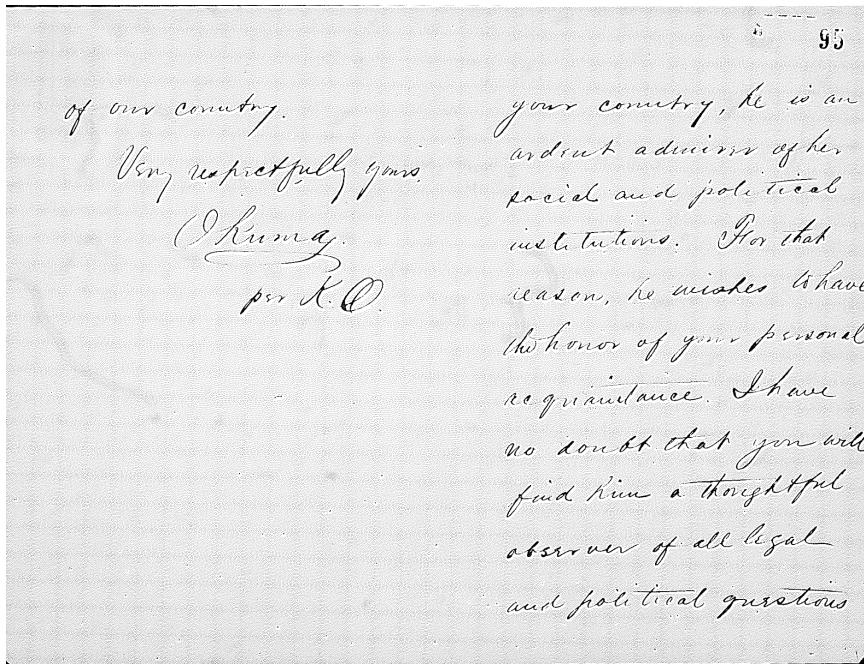
E. Satow Esq.

Dear Sir,

Allow me to
have the pleasure of
introducing to you the
bearer of this note, Mr.
Yoshiro Kubota.

He is a lawyer by
profession, and having
spent a few years in

69



55. Dr. Ludwig Lönnholm to Satow (handwritten, p.96 in file)

[Satow notes above letter: "Ans 10/3 that all I want is printed copies to send to F.O. E.S."]

Tokyo, 9th March 99

Your Excellency,

If you want them I can send you the manuscript of the amendments of the Commercial Code after 2 or 3 days, and the manuscript of the law concerning the operation of the C.C. within five days. Only I should ask that it is not made public within the next weeks. After about two[?] weeks a new edition of my translation of the Commercial Code in the revised form will appear.

I shall have the pleasure to bring you the manuscript myself one of these days.

When I was in London I had the pleasure to present my new book on the condition of foreigners to the Foreign Office.

I remain

Yours very respectfully

Dr L. Lönnholm

56. F. Brinkley to Satow (handwritten, p. 97 in file)

17th March.

My Dear Sir Ernest,

All the authorities whose opinions I have ascertained – Lönholm, [Dr. H.] Weipert [Secretary of the German Legation], Denison & the Foreign Office concur in saying that a commercial company formed in Japan in due compliance with Japanese law, whether its members be wholly or partially foreign, is entitled to hold (own) land as a juridical person. The 2nd paragraph of Art. 36 of the Civil Code puzzled me at first, but I understand now that its provisions apply to foreign juridical persons, not to Japanese juridical persons: i.e. the reference is, not to the nationality of the members, but to the nationality of the law under which the juridical person exists. Thus a Japanese Law Court would recognise a German juridical person – whether a state, an administrative district or a commercial company – for purposes of litigation, but such a juridical person, being foreign & not having complied with the requirements of Japanese law, would not possess rights which are acquired only by compliance with Japanese law. The revised Civil Code was not in operation when Viscount Aoki's note was addressed to Baron Marshall,²³ but it seems to me even on the strength of that note alone the title of juridical person, composed of foreigners as above, would be clear. For foreigners, as described in Aoki's note, acquire the right, not because of their association with Japanese partners, but because they thus come within the purview of a law which confers land-owning privileges on all partnerships. Suppose we put it this way – the presence of foreigners, many argue, in a commercial company formed in Japan in conformity with Japanese law, does not invalidate any of the rights which the company would possess were it constituted solely by Japanese. That is an absolute proposition without any limits. Hence such a company may consist of 99 foreigners & 1 Japanese. Obviously the presence of that one Japanese does not confer company rights on the association. It is a company in virtue of the presence of its 99 foreigners, and we arrive then at the conclusion that the law confers rights on the company qua company without any reference to the nationality of its units. Now that we have the revised codes – Civil & Commercial – there does not seem to be any further room for doubt or need for subtle arguments. The Commercial Code tells us that a commercial company is a juridical person, and indicates how such a company can be formed according to law. The Civil Code tells us what are the rights & obligations of a juridical person. Neither Code

²³ Probably Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, the German Foreign Minister. Aoki Shūzō was Minister Plenipotentiary to Germany 1892-97, and had a German wife. See the portrait of Aoki by Ian Nish in *Japanese Envoys in Britain* (Global Oriental, 2007, Ch. 7, pp. 69-79); and in *Britain & Japan: Biographical Portraits* Volume III (Japan Library, 1999, Ch. 12, pp. 132-143).

imposes any restriction upon the nationality of the persons forming the company. The Civil Code also lays down that foreigners enjoy private rights except as forbidden by law regulations or Treaty. It seems to me a very clear case, though a legal man could doubtless state it much more convincingly.

I saw that your letter to Whitehead was not intended for publication, but it will do great good.

Yours very truly

F. Brinkley

57. Satow's reply to Brinkley (handwritten draft, p. 99)

Private

17 March 99

My dear Brinkley,

Are you quite sure that companies (consisting entirely of foreigners) registered in Japan will be entitled to hold land?

Lönholm has stated this at p. 24 of his bk. written for the International Committee, but I don't know where he gets it from, & the 2nd paragraph. of Article. 36 of the Civil Code seems in opposition to his views.

Visct. Aoki's note of 31 Mar 1896 to Baron Marshall, both in German & Japanese texts, seems to give the right to companies containing foreign members, but not to such companies as are composed entirely of foreigners.

Whitehead did not touch on this point in his pamphlet & therefore I did not say anything about it in my letter to him: I was vexed to find that a man whose conversation was so reasonable had allowed himself to run away with false ideas about the treaty, imbibed I do not know where, tho' it is easy to surmise the source from which they came, so I wrote him that letter; it was not intended for publication as a letter from myself, tho' doubtless he considered that my authority to make any use he liked of it was sufficient.

I shall be very much obliged if you will look into the question posed in the first part of this note, and let me know the result.

y. t.

E.S.

57. Alfred Wooller to Satow [typed, p. 100 in file]

YOKOHAMA

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company

20th March 1899.

Dear Sir Ernest,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of, and to thank you for, your letter of the 18th instant with reference to the "Tonnage Dues Bill" and the amendments to the "Navigation Subsidy Law" Bill, from which I note you will furnish me with the translations asked for, in due course, meantime I am greatly obliged by your comments thereon.

Yours truly,
Alf. Wooller

58. Satow to Mollison [handwritten copy, p. 101 in file]

Tokio

28 March.

My dear Mollison,

In answer to your letter of yesterday, I should be disposed to think that it might do good if the real wording and effect of the notifications of 1874 and 1885 were made known at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce.

It is quite clear that their meaning was this: "Japanese subjects may use all these 37 kinds of old coins in paying taxes, at the rates mentioned in the annexed tables, but they may not use any of them in paying customs duties." That was all.

When I said that "so long as it was possible for foreigners to buy Bus at 320 they paid no higher duties than Japanese, hence did not suffer," I was assuming that they did what was possible. If they did not buy bus and pay them in, but on the contrary paid \$ at 311, then they were at a disadvantage.

The long and the short of the matter seems to be, that during a certain period a discrimination in the matter of paying duties was made in favour of Japanese. The length of that period is a matter of dispute, and the extent to which foreign firms were injured is also a matter for inquiry.

Yours very truly,
E.S.

59. Richard J. Kilby to Satow [typed, p. 104 in file]

Tokyo, March 28th, 1899.

Dear Sir Ernest,

The clause I meant is the second one of Art. 69, as shewn in your translation.

I thought perhaps the Government might, through this clause, be able to see its way to allow of foreigners tendering, though they had not paid taxes for the two years. It is true that the clause refers to “buppin no seishitsu”, and might not be read as I would wish it. Then again there is the “tadashi” of the Department of Communications, which you noticed yesterday, but which I note you have not included in your translation. This too might give the Minister of the Dept. Power to make a special concession in favor of foreigners who were otherwise competent.

Might I trouble you to give me the name and address of the Crammer you mentioned. I did not catch whether it was Scoot or Scoon.

I remain, dear Sir Ernest,

Yours truly,

Richard J. Kirby

60. pp. 105-114 in file – handwritten Japanese text (one page shown here only)

Note: This is a legal document comprising several articles which reads vertically from right to left. It is an extract from the Accounting Law (*Kaikeihō*).

○會計法改革

第八章政府ノ工事及物件賣買貸借

第二十四条 法律敕令ヲ以テ定メタル場合、外政府ノ工事又ハ物件賣買貸借ニ總テ公告シテ競争ニ付スベシ但シ左ノ場合ニ於テハ競争ニ付セス隨意ノ約定ニ依ルコトヲ得ベシ

第一 一人又ハ一會社ニシテ占有スル物品ヲ買入レヌ借入ルトキ

第二 政府ノ所為ヲ秘密スベキ場合ニ於テ命ズル工事スハ物品ノ賣買貸借ヲナストキ

第三 非常急遽ノ際工事スハ物品買入借入ヲナスニ競争ニ付スル暇ナキトキ

第四 特殊ノ物質又ハ特別使用ノ目的アルニ由リ生産製造品及機械ヲ買入ルトキ

61. W. Wykeham Myers to Satow [handwritten, p. 115 in file]

Tokyo

March 31/99

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I expect the place you allude to is a bay, or inlet, among the littoral sandbanks marked on our Admiralty Charts as, I think, "Ow-lai."

I am sorry I do not know the characters, & have no map at hand. It forms a most convenient point of contact for the large towns called "Po-a-Kha" and/or Po-ta-chi, both North of "West Point"[?], but is much nearer, & to the North of the former.

The Ben-min-cho for which Po-a-Kha is the chief inlet is written in Japse. thus: -- 樸仔脚²⁴. Both the above named places have their importance enhanced by their proximity to Kha-gi [嘉義], a large tradal centre on frontiers of mid & S. Formosa. Of course it is wrong to speak of 'ow-lai' as being "newly discovered", though since the last British surveys the water between the banks forming Ow-lai inlet seems to have deepened very much, this fact, no doubt, the recent Japse surveys have brought to light – I believe I may claim some responsibility for bringing this port into notice, as after I got permission for certain indulgences with regard to adoption of Japse flag for launches, owned or managed by foreigners, (with a view of specially opening up Mid-Formosa to external freightage, & relieving the close monopoly that, in previous days, forced a definitely limited foreign import trade to pass thru Tainan's) one of the first of the companies formed & running is now utilising "Ow-lai" as its terminus in central Formosa.

It is too long to write all details tho: I think they would interest you, but if you care to hear further about the proposal, and its possible tradal capabilities, or to have "Ow-lai" pointed out to you on the map, I shall be delighted to place myself at your service at any time your convenience suggests. If this port is opened up, as I trust it may be, and Takow dredged, as seems very probable, then Tainan must rapidly fall into comparative insignificance!

Yours very faithfully

W. Wykeham Myers

²⁴ Someone, presumably Satow, has written the following in the margin in pencil: 樸仔脚 now called Puzi in Southwestern Taiwan.

62. W. Wykeham Myers to Satow [handwritten, p. 117 in file]

Tokyo

April 1st/99

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I will take an early opportunity of doing as you suggest. Do you think you could borrow from the Japanese Admiralty one of their recent charts of the W. Coast from Lok-Kang – (I think called by them Lok-ko) down to Tung-Kang (“To-ko”) ? By this we could, with the aid of our own Admiralty Charts, I think, speedily locate any place you desired to know about.

Yours very truly

W: Wykeham Myers

63. W. Wykeham Myers to Satow [p. 118 in file]

Tokyo

April 3/99

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I now return the newspaper you so kindly lent me, and beg to enclose an ‘advance’ copy of my letter to the “Japan Gazette”, the original of which I am just going out to post.

Trusting that you may think I have sufficiently vindicated myself. And again thanking you for this and other kindnesses.

I am

Yrs. very truly

W: Wykeham Myers

Enclosure: Copy of letter from Myers to the Japan Gazette [mostly typed, p. 119 in file]

To the Editor

of the Japan Gazette²⁵

Yokohama

TOKYO

April 3rd, 1898

Sir,

My attention has been drawn to a translation from the Japanese Newspaper “The

²⁵ The editor was Henry Tennant, 1894-98.

YORODZU” which appeared in your issue of the 1st last.

All the statements made therein must be so obviously absurd to Westerns, that, had I only to consider your Foreign Readers, it might almost seem an impertinence to trouble you with this contradiction.

When I tell you that I have never seen the Editor of the Paper referred to, and, if he will allow one on his first visit to Japan to say so, never heard of him, or spoken to anyone directly or indirectly connected with his publication, and would not, of course dream of speaking with anyone on local Political matters, outside of those authorities I am officially bound to communicate with: perhaps you will not think me going too far when I characterise the whole Paragraph as pure, and undiluted invention!!

A gentleman connected with the “Nippon Shimbun” called on me on Saturday last to inquire about this very Paragraph. This was the first I had heard of it. I immediately assured him of its inaccuracy, and he very courteously accepted, and agreed with the propriety of my refusal to further discuss Formosan politics. I believe he was good enough to publish my repudiation of the Libel in yesterday’s Issue of his Paper.

Not only does the offending Paragraph, you have innocently reproduced, NOT represent the truth, but, it goes further, and insinuates a state of affairs diametrically opposed to fact.

I can only assume that someone has been playing the stale practical joke of “hoaxing the Editor” of the “YORODZU”, and that, in characteristic “Topsy-Turvey” fashion, the Farceur has mis-applied the proverbial privilege of the Irate Briton “to rush off and write a letter to the ‘Times’”!

Be this as it may, I can only say that I have not as yet, and hope never will forget the Elements of Moral Ethics, as bearing on my duty to my Official Superiors, with whom, moreover, it has, as now, always been my privilege, and happiness to be in most cordial relations.

I may add that my visit to Tokyo has been undertaken solely in accord with the instructions I have received. Thanking you for allowing me to publish this refutation I am yours faithfully

W. Wykeham Myers

Adviser to the Govt. for Formosa

To The Editor (copy)
of The Japan Gazette
Yokohama.

119
TOKYO,
April 3rd. 1898.

Sir,

My attention has been drawn to a translation from the Japanese Newspaper "The YORODZU", which appeared in your Issue of the 1st Inst.

All the statements made therein must be so obviously absurd to Westerns, that, had I only to consider your Foreign Readers, it might almost seem an impertinence to trouble you with this contradiction.

When I tell you that I have never seen the Editor of the Paper referred to, and, if he will allow one on his first visit to Japan to say so, never heard of him, or spoken to anyone directly, or indirectly connected with his Publication, and would not, of course, dream of speaking with anyone on Political matters, outside of those ^{confronting} I am officially bound to communicate with: perhaps you will not think me going too far when I characterise the whole Paragraph as pure, and undiluted invention !!

A gentleman, connected with the "Nippon Shimbun", called on me on Saturday last to inquire about this very Paragraph. This was the first I had heard of it. I immediately assured him of its inaccuracy, and he very courteously accepted, and agreed with the propriety of my refusal to ^{further} discuss Formosan politics. I believe he was good enough to publish my repudiation of the Libel in yesterday's Issue of his Paper.

Not only does the offending Paragraph, you have innocently reproduced, NOT represent the truth, but, it goes further, and insinuates a state of affairs diametrically opposed to fact.

I can only assume that someone has been playing the stale practical joke of "hoaxing the Editor" of the "YORODZU", and that, in characteristic "Topsey-Turvy" fashion, the Farceur has misapplied the proverbial privilege of the Irate Briton "to rush off and write a letter to the 'Times'".

Be this as it may, I can ~~only~~ say that I have not as yet, and hope never will forget the Elements of Moral Ethica, as bearing on my duty to my Official Superiors, with ~~whom~~, moreover, it has, as now, always been my privilege, and happiness to be in most cordial relations. I may add that my visit to Tokyo has been ^{undoubtedly} wholly in accord with the instructions I have received. - Thanking you for allowing me to publish this repudiation I am yours faithfully,

Advise to the Editor of the Japan Gazette

64. J.F. Lowder to Satow (handwritten, p. 120 in file)

No. 75, Yokohama

11th April, 1899

My dear Satow,

I wrote to Baron Sannomiya intimating the desire of my wife and myself to have the honour of attending his Garden party on the 13th, but he telegraphed me to say that the request must be preferred through the British Minister. May I therefore trouble you kindly to do what is needful; and if a more formal procedure is necessary, I will conform with such instructions as you may convey to me.

Yours sincerely,

J.F. Lowder

Satow's reply (handwritten draft, p. 121 in file)

12 April 1899

My dear Lowder,

I sh[ou]ld. be glad to do anything to oblige you, but am afraid there is a difficulty about putting your name on our list, apart from its having had to be sent in yesterday. The Grand Master of Ceremonies [Sannomiya] writes to me officially beforehand, to send in the names of officers of H.M.G. and distinguished persons who may be travelling thro' Japan, but sh[ou]ld. he privately ask me to put the name of any resident whom he wishes to favour on our list, I do so. It is too late this time, but I daresay you can arrange it with him for the next occasion.

y.v.t.

E.S.

65. Wooller to Satow (handwritten, p. 122 in file)

[Satow: "Ansd. 13. April."]

No 15 Bund

Yokohama

12th April 1899

Dear Sir Ernest

Business took me to Tokyo on Friday last, and amongst other things I had intended calling to thank you for your kindness and courtesy in sending me the translations of the

Tonnage Dues Law &c, but the inclement weather & not feeling very well sent me home earlier than I had intended. I therefore write to thank you instead. You have no doubt seen the Report of our Dinner in the papers to H.E. the Japanese Ministers. I hope you approve of the sentiments of the Speakers, and trust you approve of the efforts being made to meet the coming changes in a proper conciliatory spirit. For the rest, the affair is unanimously admitted to have been a great success, cuisine excellent, wines unexceptionable & as far as I know the whole affair passed off without a single contretemps of any kind.

Yours faithfully,
Alf. Wooller

66. Lowder to Satow (handwritten, p. 125 in file)

No. 75, Yokohama,
13th April, 1899

My dear Satow,

I am obliged for your note of yesterday, but much regret having been led to seek your kindly offices in a matter beyond your sphere of influence. Baron Sannomiya had wired me in the following words: "Received your letter. You will be invited on 13th if your Minister informs your request. Sannomiya"; and I naturally supposed he had indicated the accepted procedure. Under no circumstances should I knowingly have subjected you to the annoyance of being obliged to refuse so simple a request; but I had understood that the privilege I sought was an adjunct to the possession of the Order of the Rising Sun of the third class. I am writing to Sannomiya on the subject, and will enclose a fresh[?] copy of my note to him.

Yours very truly.
J. F. Lowder

Copy of letter on transparent paper

No. 75, Yokohama
13th April, 1899.

His Excellency, Baron Sannomiya

Sir,

I had the honour to receive your telegram of the 11th instant, intimating in reply to my

request, that I should receive an invitation to the Japanese Garden Party today if the request was preferred through the British Minister. But on applying to His Excellency, I learn that the names sent in for invitation from the Legation are confined to those of officers of Her Majesty's Ships, of distinguished persons who may be travelling through Japan, and of residents whom Your Excellency may wish to favour privately by asking the Minister to place their names upon his list. In applying for an invitation, I had no intention of asking a favour, being under the impression that I was seeking a privilege accorded to all persons holding the third order of the Rising Sun; but in this it would appear I was mistaken, which I much regret.

Yours very faithfully,
J. F. Lowder

67. J. Cooper Robinson to Satow (handwritten, p. 127 in file)

Nagoya

April 18th 1899

Dear Sir:-

Some little time ago Bishop Awdry informed me that, having heard from him something about the trouble I have had during the past year in connection with the Yoro-In, you very kindly expressed interest in the matter and said you would like to have a copy of the Judgment delivered in the case. I only received the hanketsusho [written decision 判決書] from the Court of Appeal a few days ago and now have much pleasure in forwarding a copy thereof. If you would prefer to have the original document I should be glad to send it. I take the liberty of sending you also, under separate cover, a copy of a letter I have typewritten for a few friends who take a special interest in the House, together with a copy each of the fourth and seventh Annual Reports. Last year was the most trying one we have yet experienced, but I am thankful for the way in which the difficulty about the property has terminated and trust that we shall now be permitted to enjoy peace and prosperity as well as rich spiritual blessings in this little work.

I regret that I have not yet had the honour of calling upon you at the Legation. I would have done so when in Tokio last January had I not happened to be there just at the time of Lord Charles Beresford's visit when I felt your time would be fully occupied.

Believe me, Dear Sir,
Yours very faithfully

J. Cooper Robinson

Enclosure: Court decision in handwritten Japanese

pp. 128-138 in file, filed upside down

判決正本
愛知縣名古屋市上前津町甲
三十六番戸平民
控訴人 植田寅次郎
右訴訟代理人弁護士
宮田仁造
愛知縣名古屋市白川百四十一番戸
寄留平民
被控訴人 山崎友吉
今縣令市横代官町十五番戸寄留

士族
令
令縣令市白壁所四番戸
仁平 志
令縣令市鷹匠所百六十三番戸
山崎孝太郎
令縣西春井郡金城村大字上名古屋
七十七番戸
濱島 藤兵卫
左訴訟代理人并護士

美濃部貞亮
新井太吉

右當事者間ノ不動産共有権確認并ニ名
義付換請求事件ニ付名古屋地方裁判所
ノ判決ニ對スル控訴審理ヲ遂ゲ判決スルニ付
如シ

本件控訴之ヲ棄却ス

控訴費用ハ控訴人負擔ス

事實

控訴代理人ハ原告判決全部ヲ廢棄セラシメシ

被控訴人共ノ請求相立タルトノ新決アリタシト申立
 被控訴人代理合本控訴人不当ト云フ事望却セラシ
 控訴費用ハ控訴人ノ負担ト云フ事新決アリタシ
 ト申立タリ而シテ各事案上ノ演述ハ新決
 指示スル処ト全ク以テ之ヲ引用ス
 理由
 本訴ハ失ツ係争物件ハ其名義ノ如ク控訴人等ノ
 共有ナリト將タ養老院ト稱スル組合員ノ共有
 ナリヤウ審判官ハ之ハカラス第一審ニ於テ取調ヘン
 證人橋本太ハ横代官所ニ在リ(係争中)ト明決

三十五年七月二十日伊藤秋植田岸次郎(按許)
 二賣渡しせん中老人ヲ養フ爲メ入用ナリト申
 又今言モ右地所ニ君免陵カ出来居ルニ陳
 述し今証人太田鉄吉ヲ横代官所ニ書地ノ内建
 物(建物)ヲ受買建築シタルカ老人ヲ養ふニ付便
 所ノ如キ床続キヲ致セト云ハシタルニ陳述し今東
 老人伊藤秋植ノ横代官所ニ書地ノ地所者
 物ハ自己及植田岸次郎(按許)ノ共有名義ニ
 毛其賣養免陵ノ所有ナリ故ニ名義主ニ於テ
 後日惡キ計畫ヲ為サうとせん爲メノ豫防トシテ

名譽了人岩崎等と書入したる体ニ装ヒ置キタ
旨陳述した人岩崎義憲モ又前年老人ト
強ト全一したコトヲ陳述す此陳述ハ是モ証
容ルキ点ナキニテ故テ控訴代理合ニ於テ其本成立
ヲ認ル甲第ニハ五号証ニ参照スルニ甲第三号
証ハ係宇地所實受証甲第四号証ハ之ヲ
抵当トシテ書入したる借用証書甲第五号証
ハ係宇地所物ヲ抵当トシテ書入したる借用証
書ハカ甲第ニ号証ハ實受代金ト甲第四号証ハ
借用金ト金々金額トニトル如キ甲第四、五号証
兩証